

An  
Index  
giving <sup>on</sup> ~~in~~ List of Topics  
in a general way  
some idea of the contents of  
letters in this book.

Several matters were  
brought into most of the  
letters, but it did not seem  
worth while to make a  
complete index to a  
book that may  
perhaps never be read again.

Maria L. Owen

granddaughter of  
William Coffin

Springfield, Massachusetts, January, 1902-

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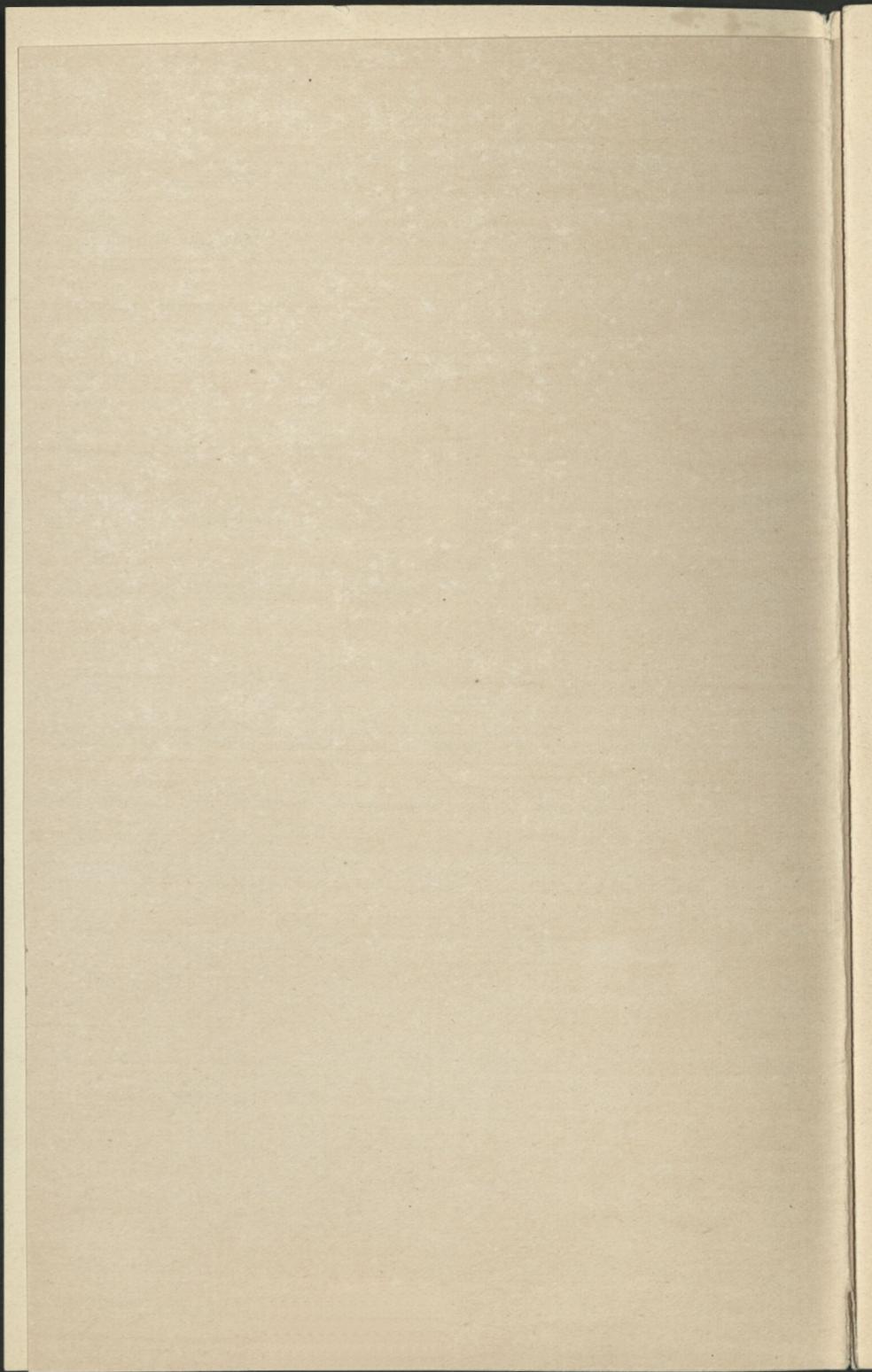
pp- 1, 2, 3, 4 - Vigorous remarks  
on the course of the Secretary of  
the Treasury (it was Albert Gal-  
latin but he is called here derisively  
"Skipper Jones" - M-L-O.) and Congress,  
fixing the status of Nantucket  
oppressively and even cruelly, in  
regard to the embargo laws and  
the coastwise trade -

5 and on - Some dozen letters  
relating to a consignment of  
600 barrels of flour which proved  
to be a troublesome piece of  
business

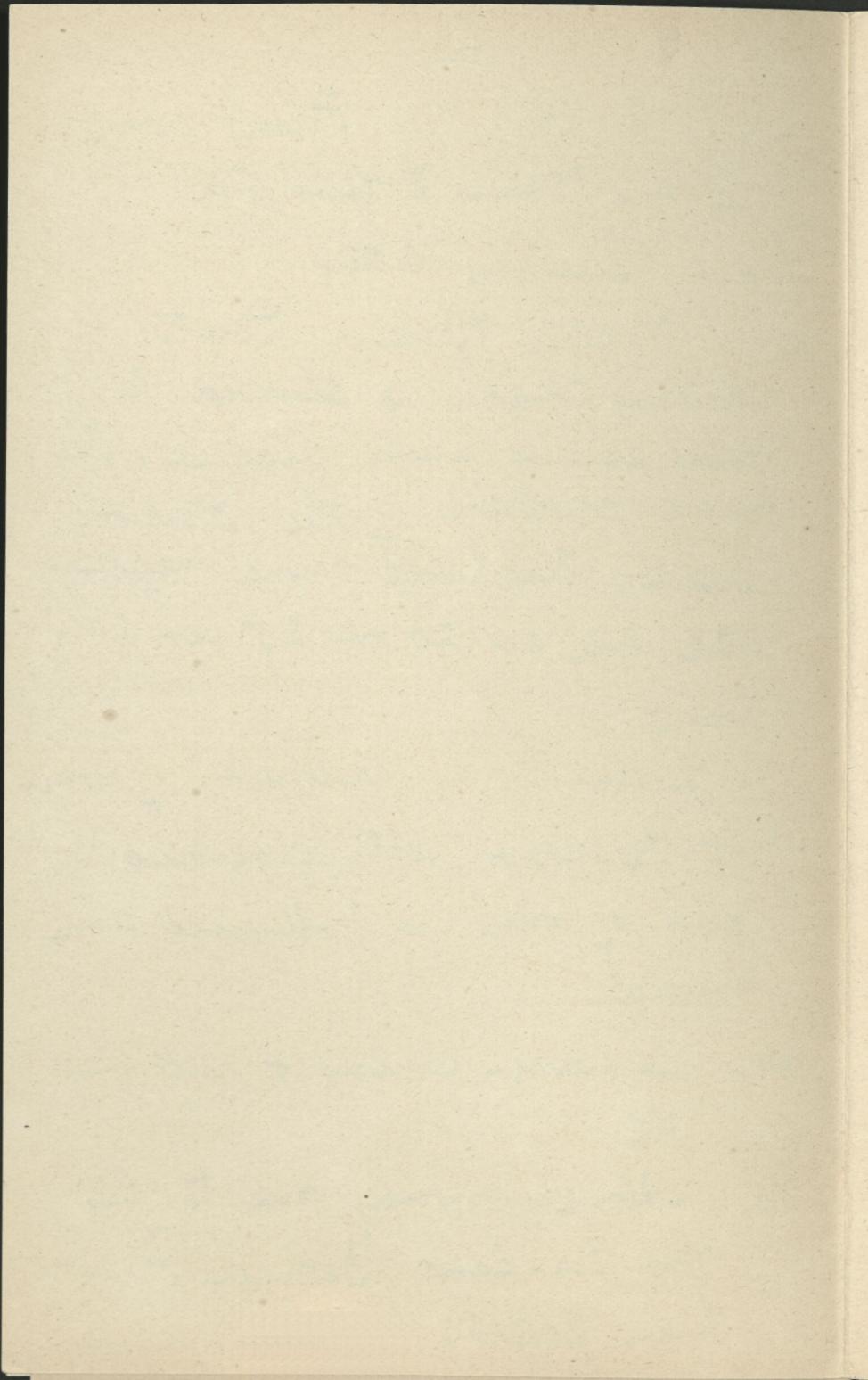
10 and on - About cotton saved  
from a wreck -

14. The flour again -

15 and on - Various business affairs.



20. To the Rev. Mr. Flint about his son Wm. Coffin Jr.
- 20+on. Business letters.
21. To Waller Baker. Doubts whether tobacco is allowed in vessels sailing under license. The sound condition of the Pacific Bank. New York money negotiated only at 20 or 25 per cent discount.
23. Letter to a prisoner of war at Halifax with generous offers of help in influence and money.
24. Business - Onions & salt and oil.
25. About money due to his bro-in-law, Bethuel Pinkham's estate. Geo. Pinkham



his son, looking for business.

To people who wanted whalebone.

26. Similar business. In a postscript tells a man who had cheated him out of \$50<sup>00</sup> and run off.

27. Rice consigned to him. Sky lights and binnacle illuminator. A ship that G. Gardner will buy.

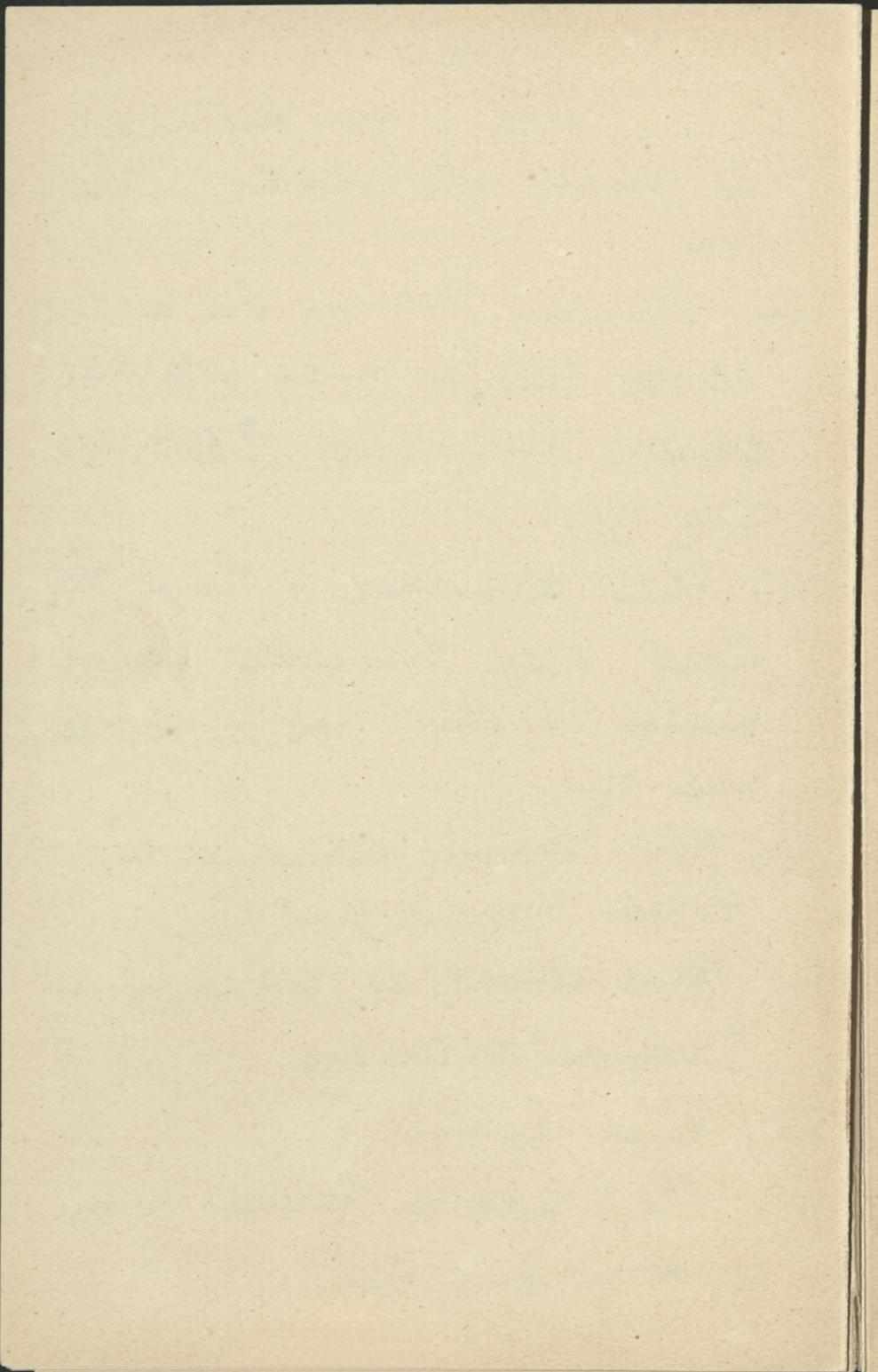
28. High business standing of Gideon Gardner and son.

29. Had served as referee in a Medford controversy.

30. Rice again.

31. The Medford business again.

2. About some oil.



32. Settling for some rice.

33. Rice again, and grindstones.

34. Paying for grindstones.

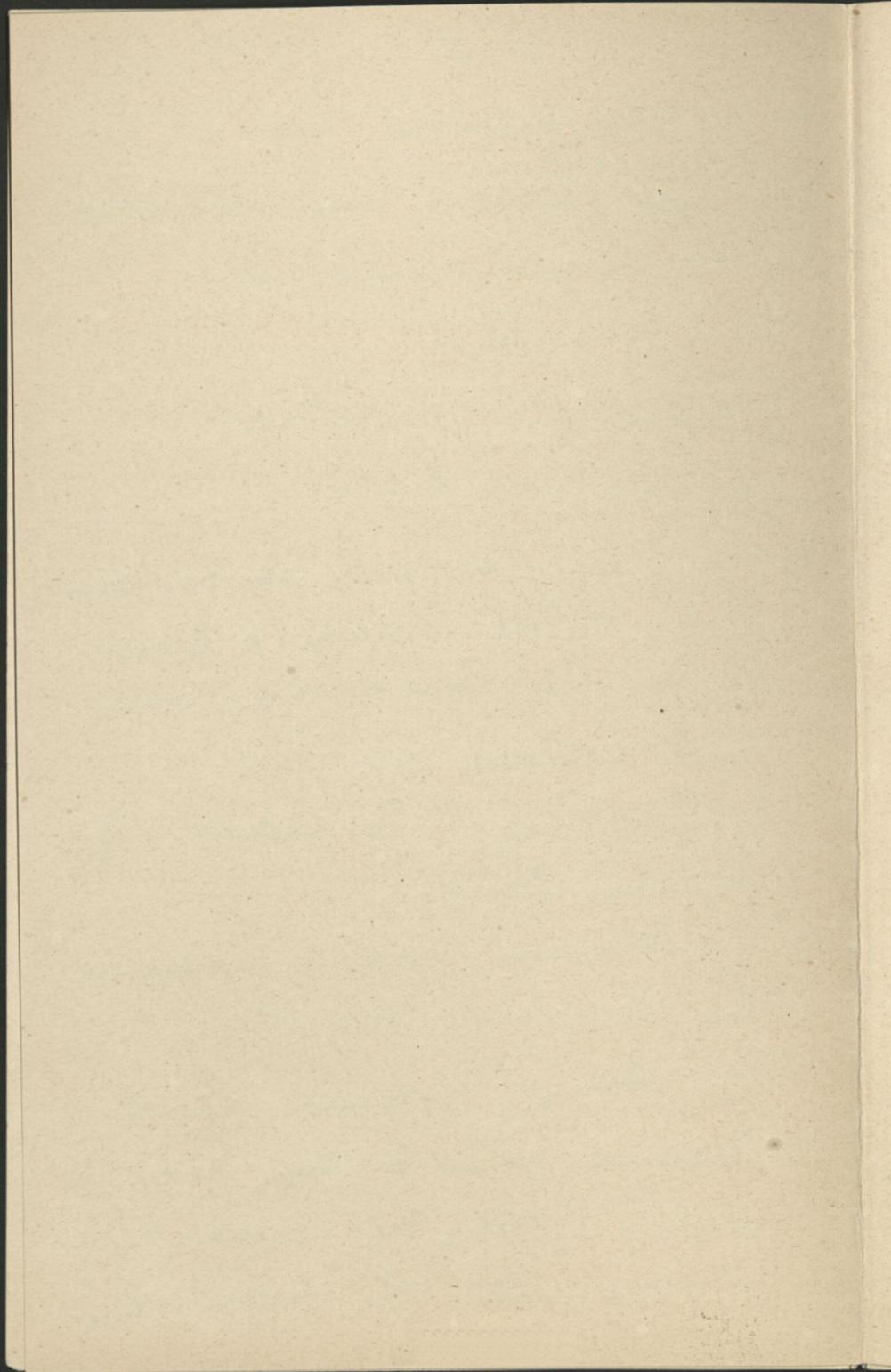
Rice

35. Paying for grindstones  
2. Jar and pitch.

36 + 37. Business with a London  
firm & Geo. Myrick & Capt.  
Stuts. The latter very poor  
and arrested for debt.

2. Something to be decided by  
Supreme Court.

38. Watkinson had not answered  
his letter of May 19.  
2. About molasses. Send  
treasury notes to pay dues at  
Custom-House; the smaller the  
denomination the better. Any



Surplus would do to pay for watch  
chain, furniture and a host of  
direct taxes.

39. Wants pitch and tar.

2. Wants treasury notes.

3. Had received no answer  
to a previous letter. Owners of  
a brig thought of sending her  
for elephant oil if they had  
good accounts from Patagonia;  
else they might send her to  
Lisbon. Miles of the news that  
had called up the bank robbery  
again — (in 1816) Wine to sell.

40. 2. Going to send the brig to  
Patagonia.

41. 1. Sends for Russia duck.

2. To his wife's nephew Geo. R.  
Pinkham on family affairs.

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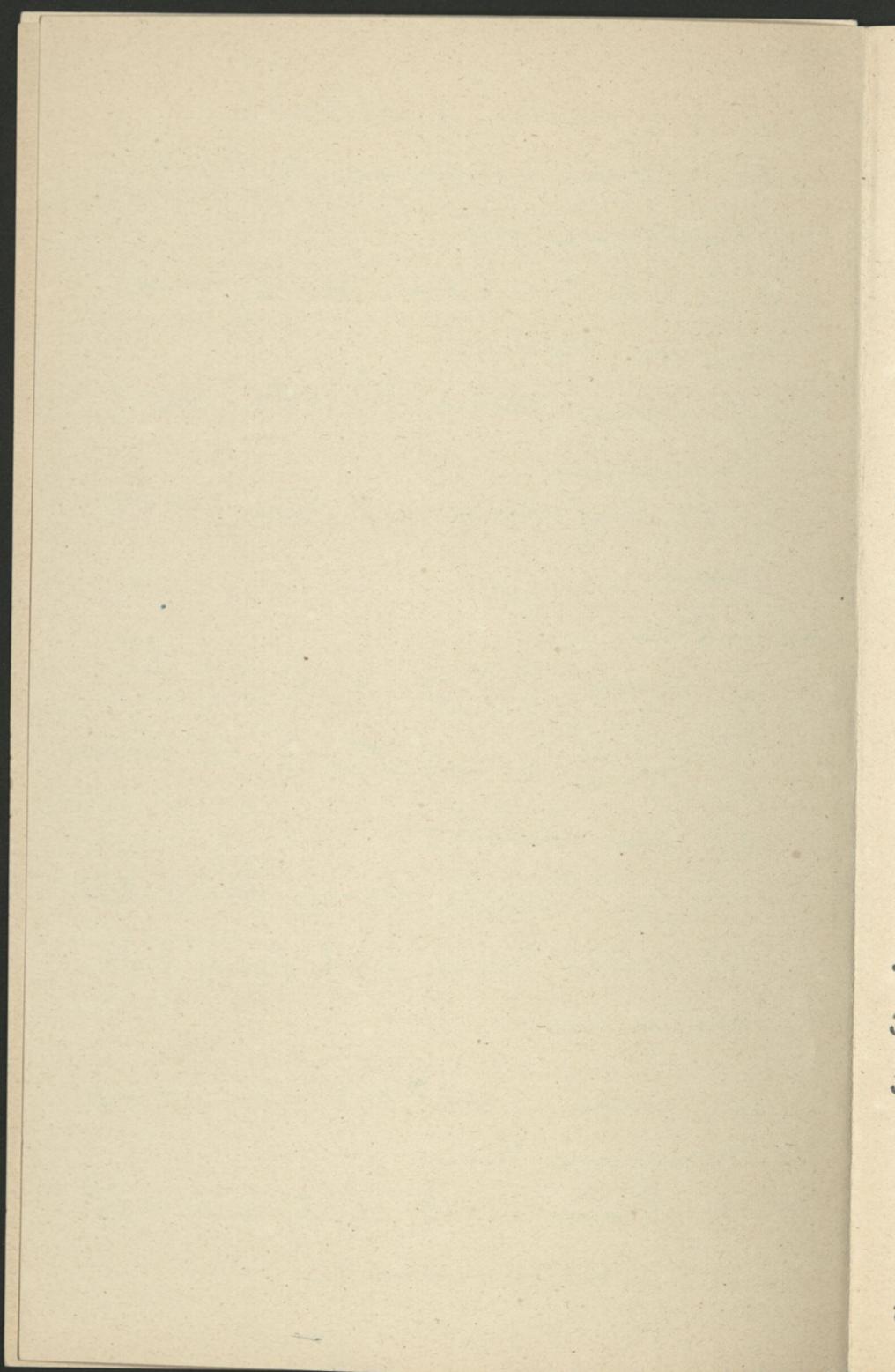
42. 1. Oil casks and wine.  
 2. Money advanced to his son.  
 Scasconset fish.  
 3. To G.R. Pickham; family and business affairs.

44 + 45. About keeping B. Rotch out of bankruptcy.  
 2. Lending money and fish as promised.

46. 1. Fish.  
 2. Sends money, part for his son.  
 3. Wants a reflector for a lime-  
 cle illuminator.

47. Wine. Wants money for duties at custom house and flour for family use.  
 2. Advises Mr. Parkman about money due him.

48. 1. Advice about collecting a note  
 2. Wine again - &c.  
 Remitting money.



49. Money for his son. Candles to be sold. Has views about soup houses for the poor. Ships at the bar with wrecked sailors on board.

2. Wants shingles and lumber for his own use.

50. Deck lights wanted, and binacle lights and pump boxes.

2. Wine unsold.

3. Wine.

51. 1. Suspects he has been cheated about the wine.  
2. Sends his elephant and whale oil to be sold.

54. An invoice

55. The gauging of the oil.

56. The oil again.  
2. Fish to be brought over from Falmouth. Captain must not enter any Nova Scotia port.

57. Shipping lumber, oil and candles to Fayal.

5

5

6

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6

6

57. 2. Misunderstanding about  
some fish.

58. Balance belonging to estate of  
Bethuel Finkham.

2. Conclusion of 2 on p-49

3. Clapboards and floor boards  
wanted.

59. Had got ahead of a trustee pro-  
cess and secured for Mr. Tes-  
senden his share of a voyage.

60. Sent money for Plymouth Beacon  
lottery tickets.

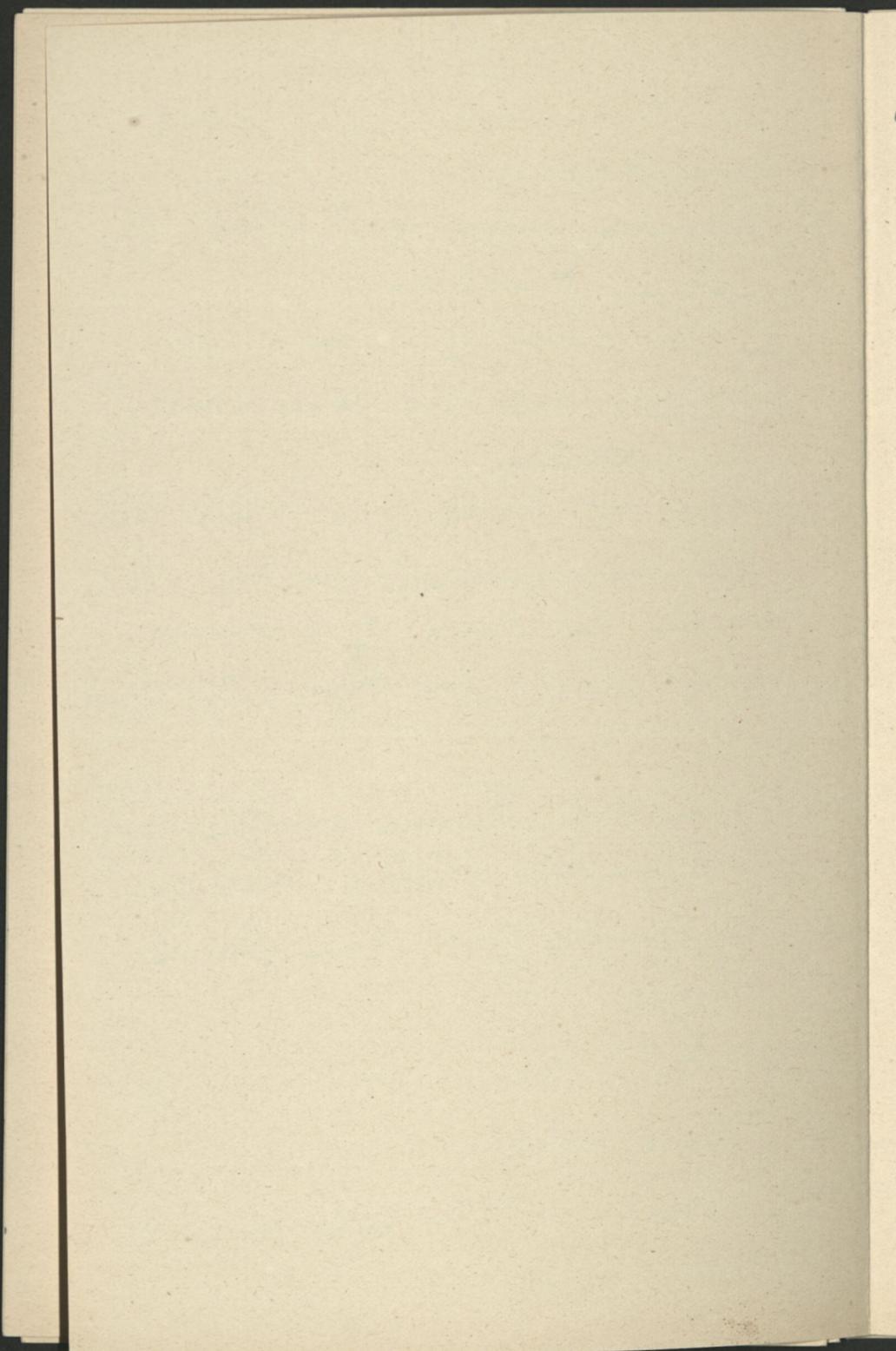
61. Money sent. Family matters and  
views on the whaling business.

62. Hydraulic boxes and hand  
pumps.

2. To his son - part torn off.

63. Bank stock

2. Relating to the settlements of  
three estates.



9

64. Relating to the death of his son-in-law, Capt. Robert Swain.

2. A money order sent.

65. Insurance Co.'s dividend. Mrs. Mitchell's health. Whaling prospects. Greatest snow storm ever known on the island. A case of manslaughter. Sale of Ins. Co.'s shares.

66. Sale of shares. Iron doors.

2. A lawsuit against several insurance companies.

68. Pending money. Cushman tried for manslaughter.

2. Sent \$1000<sup>00</sup> in Newport money as that is current in New York.

69. Pump boxes and pumps returned.

2. Has sold ten shares more.

70. Wants Henry Pinkham to pay a note due to his brother's estate.

74  
6

70. 2. Same subject.

71. Thomas Pinkham going out w  
his brother - taking oil and  
candles.

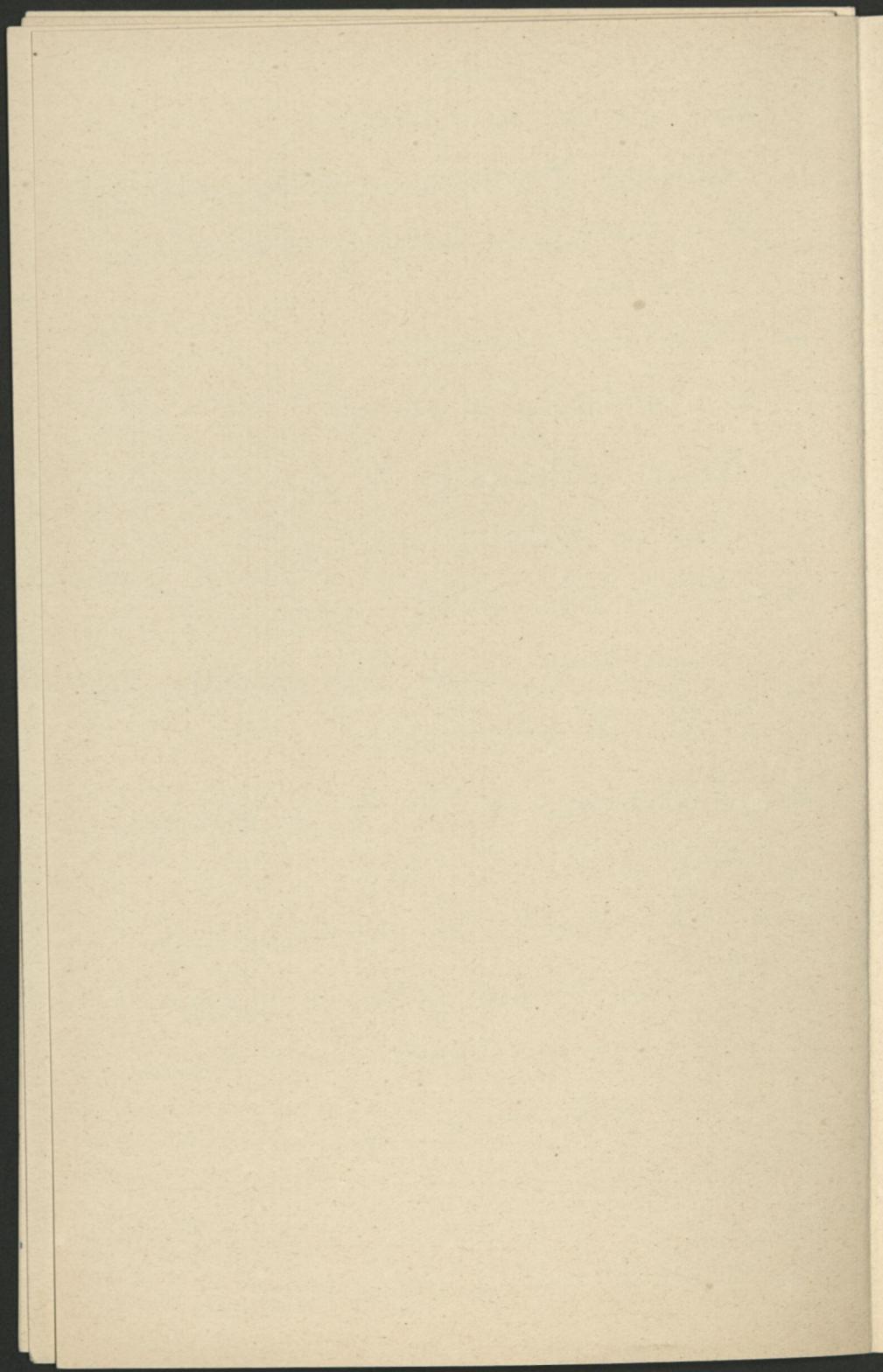
72. Sending money.  
2. Sending a draft.

73. Had attended to an order  
upon a sailor's voyage.  
2. But the ship met with some  
misfortune and the master had  
<sup>74 + 75</sup> below to be re arranged.

76. Dividend sent to a stock-  
holder.  
2. Reporting the division of  
73. Mitchell's father's estate.

74. (Accidentally omitted from place.)  
Final settlement of the sailor's  
voyage.

75. You going into the grocery business.  
2. Pump boxes paid for.



75. 3. Wants a hogshead of molasses  
and 400 lbs. of good butter for ship  
Yargum.

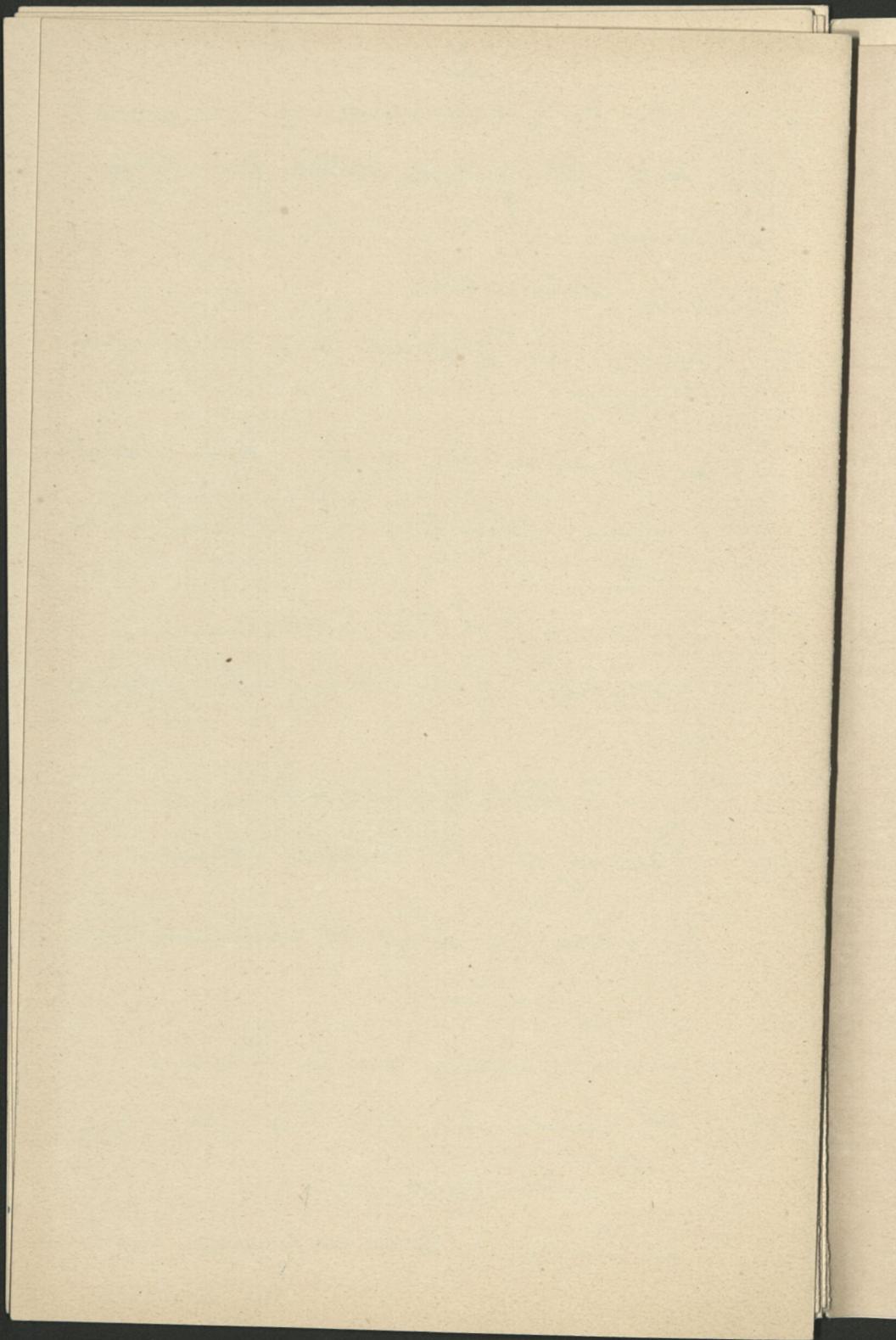
77. 76. 2 continued.

78. Sends 73. Mitchell an order for  
\$ 500<sup>00</sup>  
1. Consigns oil of very best quality.  
3. Had collected the money on a  
note.

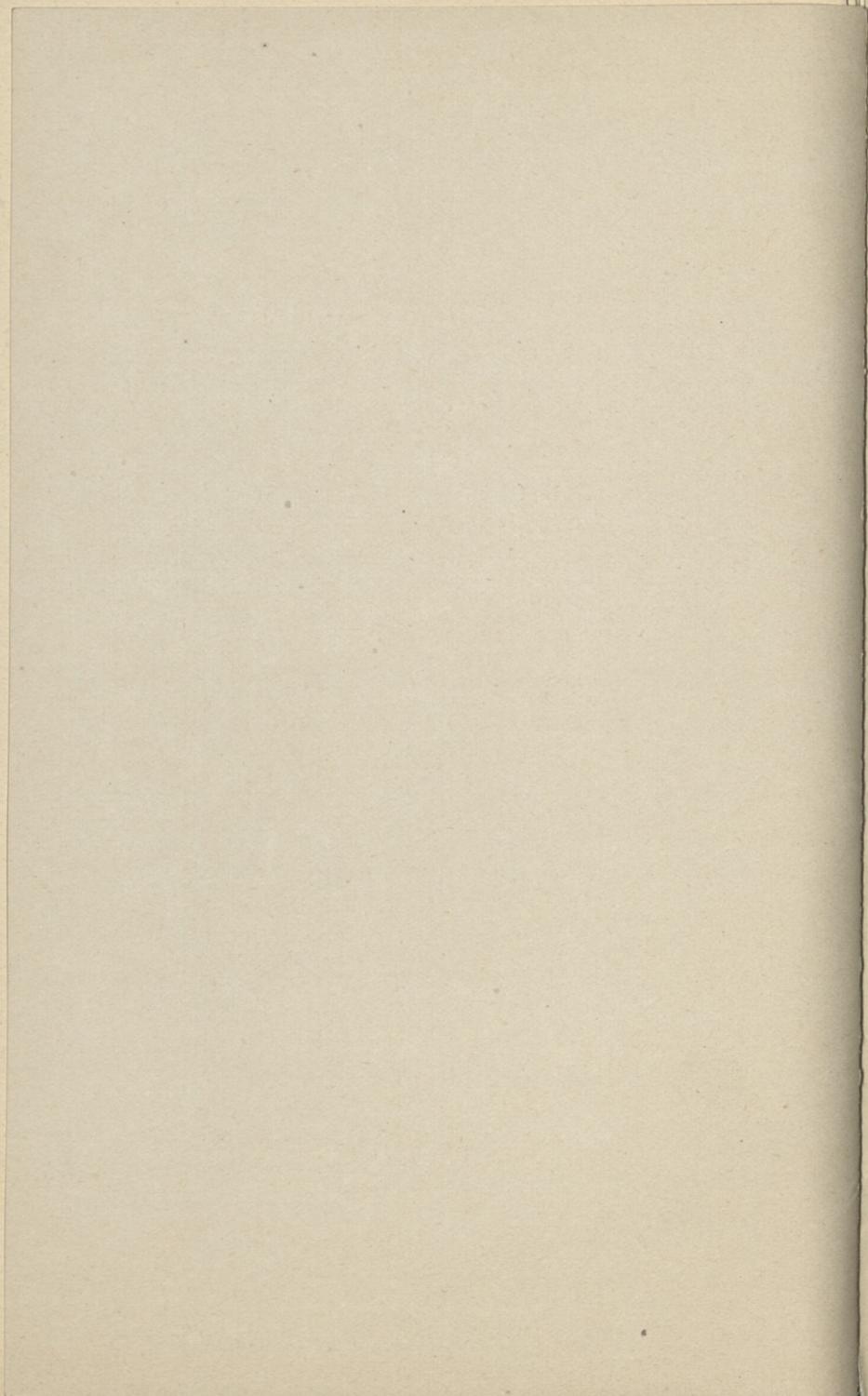
79. Vouching for the unblemished  
character of a man who wanted  
office.  
2. Oil shipped for sale.

80. Paying for pinnacle lenses.  
2. About a ship condemned at  
Rio Janeiro.  
3. Insurance on a house.

81. A guarantee for his grandson  
Wm. C. Starbuck  
2. Check to pay a draft.







82. Temporary embarrassment with  
the banks.

2- Ship Yargum abandoned at  
sea; captain and crew took to  
the boats.

83. House to be sold.

2- Describing buildings on which  
he wants the insurance renewed.

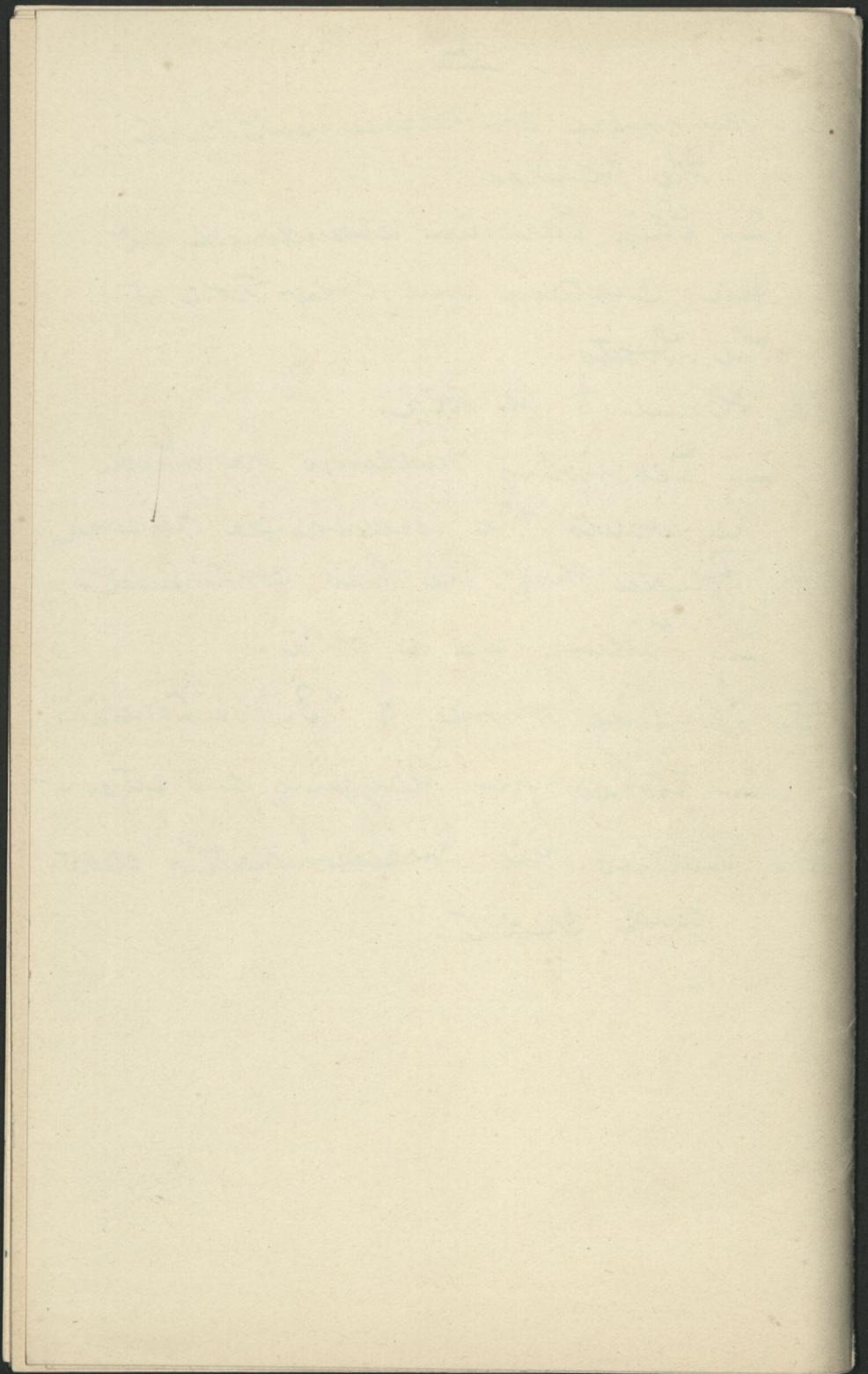
84. Policies that he has continued.

2- Taking up a note.

85. Sending money to T.B. Mitchell.

2- Stokes for flagging and steps.

86. Skating his correspondent's debts  
and credits.



# LETTER, BOOK

No. 1886

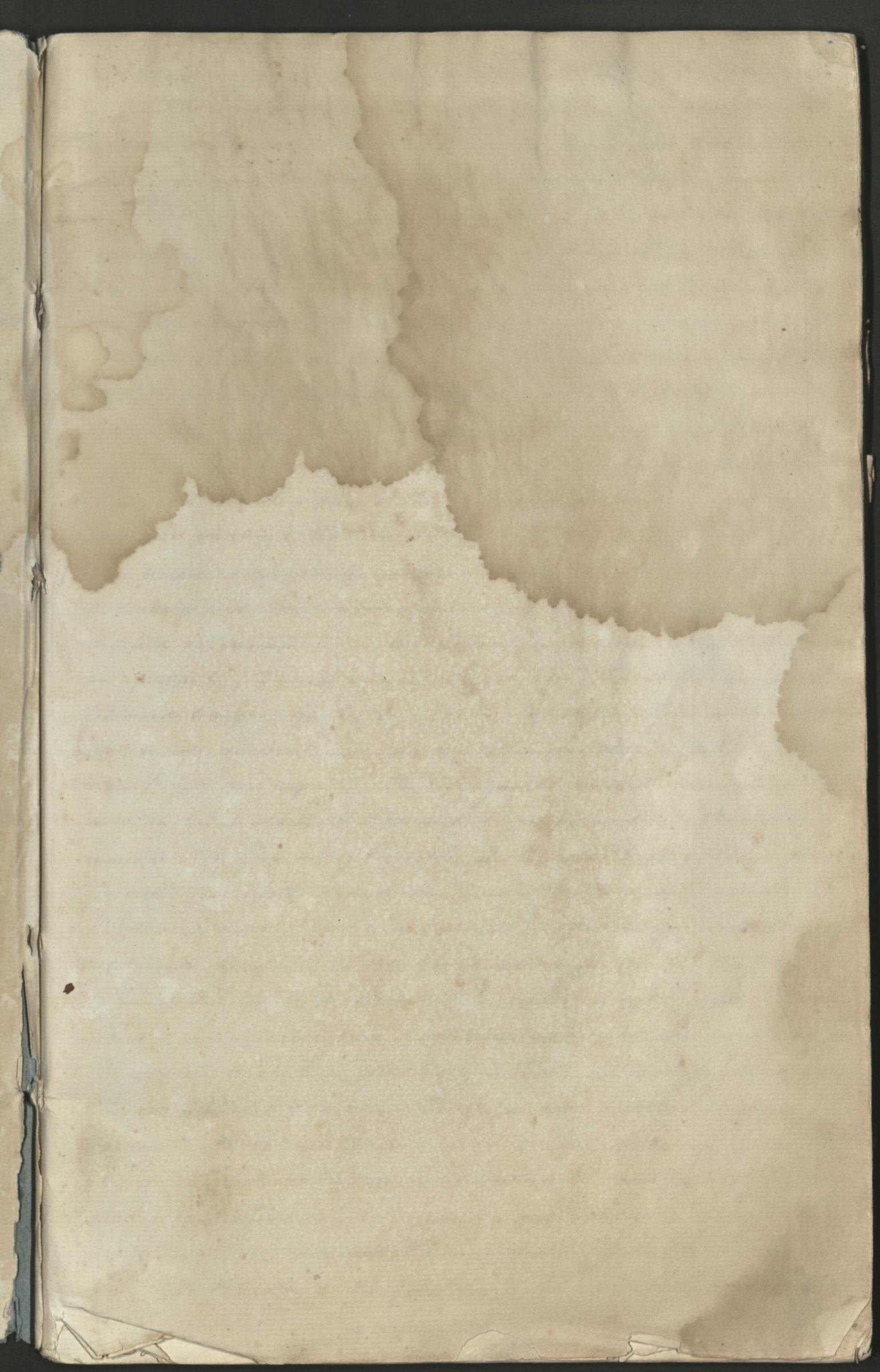
Letter book of William Coffin.

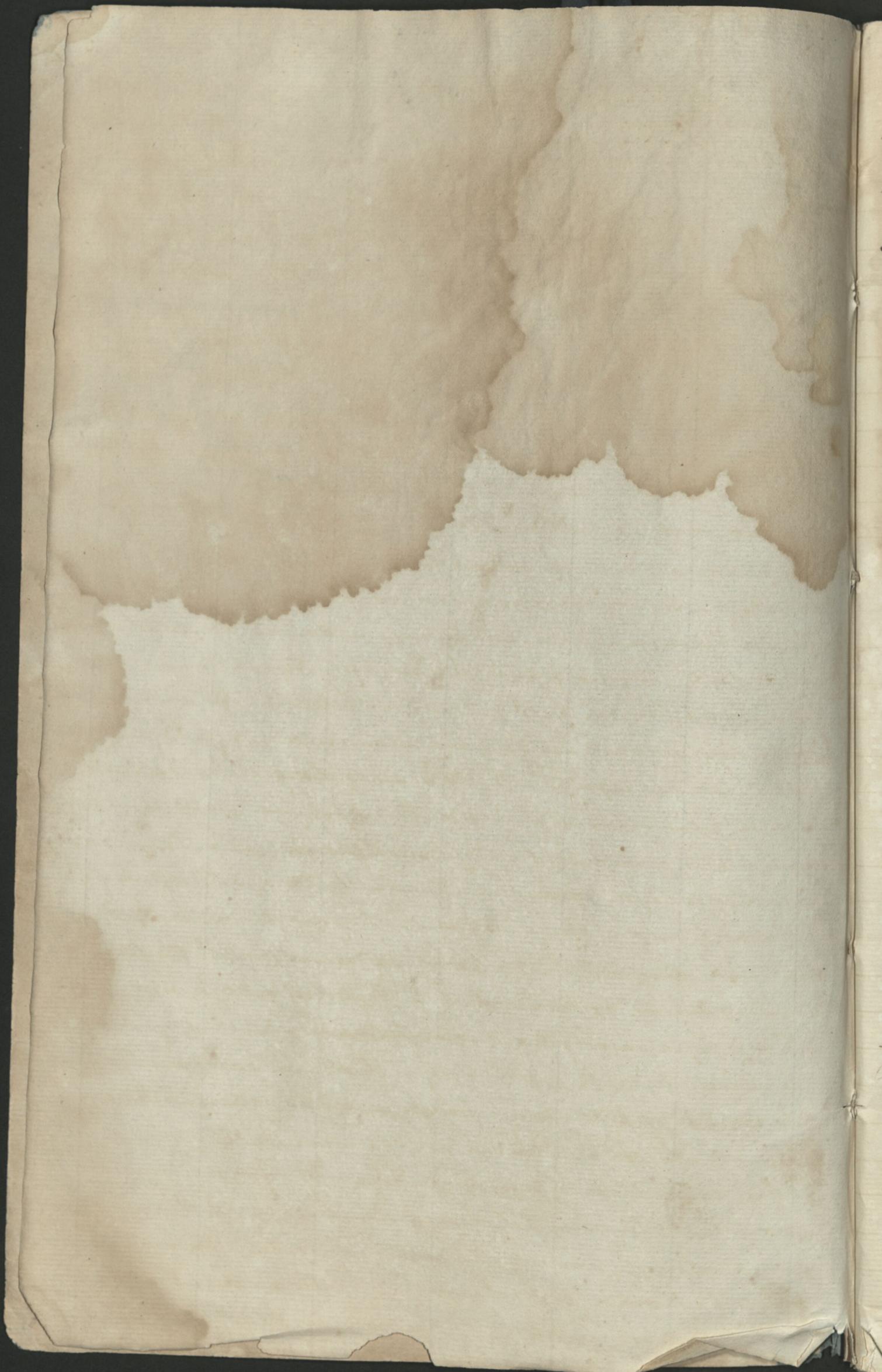
Feb. 6-1811 to Oct. 16-1833.

Wm. Coffin b-1756, d-1835. Also a  
paper on some charitable Societies carried on by women for  
the education of the poor children of Nantucket, and for their help.

On the back of Father's picture which  
hangs in my room, there is written the  
following - William Coffin, born Dec. 16th 1756  
Died May 1st 1835. Painted by Jerome Thompson  
June 1834. H. Peirce.

The portrait is hanging now in the library  
of the Nantucket Atheneum -  
December 1901 - Maria L. Owen





Flo' Grapier

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 1814

Mr Sir I wrote you a few days past, under cover to Mr Bosland in hope it might reach Boston before you should leave. if you was gone I requested Mr B to forward it to you by Mail, to that letter I rec'd you for some particulars respecting your business since that I have had an offer for the whole flour at 13 Dllr per bbl, the payment to be made would have answered your purpose well.

If I had considered that there was any discretionary power left with me, I should have closed with the offer, but having written to Mr B before, that the flour was unsold, & that it would remain so, until I heard from him, or you again, I of course rejected the offer.

I have now to inform you that a new state of things is about to take place. The Secretary of the Treasury (Schipper Jones) has given his opinion in writing; that the Island of Nantucket is situated in the open Ocean, consequently no merchantize or supplies of any kind under the Embargo Law, & instructions for carrying the same into effect could be shipped or transported to that Island, in consequence of that opinion an agent, (Mr Q. Gardner) from Nantucket, being then at Washington, Petitioned Congress for the relief of the Inhabitants, from such a barbarous Law, a bill was brought in — some amendments made — and many very worthy ones rejected, the bill again committed — re-committed & so hatched about, that at last it was ushered into the world a monster half fish & half Vegetable, all limbs no head or body. 7000 free Citizens made slaves to the President by the dash of a pen. this Bill or monster, produced from the Embargo Law, is to be nursed up under the direction of a Board of Commissioners in this place, to be appointed by the President & to consist of one astronomical con-jurer a circumnavigator, & some man monster, who combines in the greatest degree the properties of the Guttle Fish or Squid. when this monster of a bill passed Congress, considerable dispute arose amongst the Politic Doctors, as to the name by which it should be Christened, which partly arose from its being of doubtful gender one member was for calling it, Free trade & sailors rights, an other something else, however after considerable debate it was mis-named a bill for the relief of the Inhabitants of Nantucket, & by the bill they are relieved, just as muleteers relieve their mules, when journeying.

the first that time has his load increased, then spurred on for a while, then reduced to his original load & he goes on very well.

I will now give you the substance of the bill as it reads: it is to admit the Inhabitants of Nantucket, to import as much (& no more) provisions, fuel & other necessaries, as is sufficient for their own consumption, in Vessels or boats, qualified agreeably to the 4<sup>th</sup> Sect of the Embargo Law, this they may do by application to the President, & thus the Inhabitants, have the liberty to export in the same vessels, Oil, Fish, & Candles to the main, all this to be done within the bounds, prescribed by said 4<sup>th</sup> Sect. By this relief to the Inhabitants, you will see that your flour cannot be exported, whether that will be against your interest, or not, you have yet to learn.

The restrictions, of the Embargo Laws, & some other Laws of the General Government (whose constitutionality is questionable) are now under the consideration of our State Legislature, what will be the result of their deliberations is quite uncertain. They are called on by Petitions, Memorials, & Remonstrances, to assert demand, & defend the Sovereignty of the State against the encroachments of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Government. The Legislature move slowly in the business, but with a firm & steady step, the Gen<sup>l</sup> Government through Gen<sup>l</sup> Cushing have requested to have the jurisdiction over a small tract of land, for Military purposes in the western part of the state, the business was committed, & the report was that it was inexpedient to make the grant. A resolve has passed the Court, that the U.S. shall not have the liberty of the jails to confine Prisoners Warri, & the Sheriff of Counties have directions to release from said jails, all such prisoners in 10 days after the promulgation of said Resolve. It appears that this State is progressing to a point, which will soon bring the Sovereignty of this & the U.S. in contact, one or both must then give back, or the sword must be drawn, if ever that takes place, farewell the Constitution of the U.S. some despot wider than rule or the severance of the States will follow. Now to return to business. I wish for some further instructions as respects your flour, from your self; or Mr. Borland if he is authorised to give any

it will remain as it is until I hear from you or him.

Ellen's Vessel remains here yet & is still lik. to remain, except some remonstrance should go to the Genl' Court stating the business, in which case I should not think strange, if an order should be issued ordering her to Boston, & making it penal in any Officer of the U.S. to stop her, a strong case can be made out; that the flour belongs in Boston was shipped in Virginia for there, is now stopped at Nantucket, by a law yet more cruel & unjust than the Embargo Law & stopped in a place where it is very liable to capture by enemies, as no defensive measures are contemplated, should they take it into their heads to visit us, if the Ship, that Vandavaren at Tarpanlin got information of the flour at Nantucket; would they not think it an object to come after it; I am fearfull the world

I shall send this letter by private hand to the continent  
lest the Mail may be taken, it has run two narrow chances lately

May thine find you & your family enjoying the blessing  
of health as they leave me & mine — W.C.

Feb'y 7<sup>th</sup> 1814

Mr J. B. Borland.

Sir Since writing you on the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst. I have been offered \$13<sup>m</sup> per bbl. for Cropper's flour, payable in Bill on Baltimore, Phila or N.Y. at short sight. whether it would bring that now is uncertain a new order of things is about to take place. a bill has recently passed Congress, mis-named; a bill for the relief of the Inhabitants of Nantucket; for the particulars must refer you to the news paper, by one clause of which, we <sup>were to</sup> have the liberty to export from the Island, Oil Fish, & Candles, so that it would appear that nothing else can be exported. According to a calculation recently made, the expenditure of flour is about 60 bbls per week, if that calculation is correct there is more flour in our market than would be expended in 6 m

But will not Miss<sup>m</sup> Hale & Thatcher (who have a vessel now at our Wharf loaded with flour) petition our Legislature for liberty to bring it to Boston, a strong case can be made out, & such as I should suppose our Legislature would be in duty bound to notice, if they do not admit that Congress have a right to bind the Citizen of

of this Commonwealth in all cases whatsoever.

The case which they could make out, & in which I think you could join them, is, that their flour now at Nantucket, after being transported across Chesapeake Bay at considerable expense & risk & by land carriage taken to Matonkin & from thence shipped for Hyannis & Boston, on its arrival was first detained by the provisions of the Embargo Law (without Instructions) until Hyannis harbour was frozen up, it being the only port allowed by that Law to which a vessel could proceed with any degree of safety, & now is to be detained under an Act still more oppressive, & that at a place where a very small force of the enemy might take it, as there is no preparation made for defensive measures & none contemplated

Should Mess<sup>rs</sup> H<sup>d</sup> & T. conclude to Petition & you should join them, if my presence is necessary, I feel so interested in the business that I would immediately attend —

I am yours &c &c

W.C.

Capt Eldridge

Feb. 15 1814

Dear Sir I have in my hands nearly 600 bbls of flour belonging to a gentleman in Virginia (Mr Cropper) it was to sold at Nantucket at a limited price or shipped to Boston to Mr J. B. Borland it would not sell at the price limited & I have received instructions from Mr Borland to ship it to you & you will take the charge of it. I have now shipped by Capt Matthews 43 barrels marked C No 1 @ 43. if Capt Matthews should return immediately he may get a full load perhaps before exportation of that article from Nantucket is put a stop to, by a recently passed Congress, <sup>recently passed Congress</sup> an Act for the relief of Nantucket.

Yours affec

Inclined is a bill of lading the freight is to be paid by me to you —

Mo. 9. 13. Borden

Dan'tucket Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 1814

15

No new instructions has yet reached our  
Collector, under the Act lately made in Congress, limiting exports  
it is expected daily, however I have commenced shipping Mr  
C's flour have this day put on board the Sloop

Capt Matthews

barrels marked C No 1 @ 43 & consigned the same to Capt.  
Ellidge. The vessel in which I shipped it, could take no more, she  
proceeds to Bay river, it is said the place is equally convenient  
to transportation as Highams, for such vessels as go into Bay River  
which must be small on account of the Bar. Highams still continues  
freezing up which forbids any shipments to that place & there is no other  
vessel at present that sails between this & Bay River, but Capt  
Matthews Previous to my commencing to ship the flour I  
was obliged to guarantee Capt. May & Hussey their freight  
they agreeing to pay the freight across the sound, of all that shall  
be shipped this being the best I could do for Mr Cropper under  
present circumstances the flour is not of the first quality, and  
I think as much may be sold here as will pay the freight, at more  
than it will net in Boston, as soon as you receive the small quantity  
now shipped you can immediately tell what it will do I wish  
every thing <sup>may</sup> be done for the interest of my friend Mr Cropper  
your W. C -

Capt J. Ellidge

Dan'tucket Feb'y 19<sup>th</sup> 1814

I have shipped by the Sloop  
Capt Jas ~~Smart~~ have hundred & twenty barrels of  
flour so cut of that Cropper to be forwarded to J. F.  
Borden Boston I t is probable I shall ship  
two hundred lbs more by the Sloop Betsy Capt Giffen  
not much — your Wm Cropper

bills of lading attached -

<sup>86</sup>  
Capt Ellidge

Parmenter Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 1814

Dear Sir I have shipped by Capt Gifford  
on the Eliza 246 bbls. flour from 164 @ 407. marked C  
this flour is on the same acct as that ship'd for Capt Matthews  
Capt Smith. the latter said I returned again, this day she  
sailed again —

Yours Wm Copper

Capt Gifford is to go to Bap river if  
he cannot go to St. John's —

Feb 23

Mr J. J. Borland

Sir I have shipped to you through  
the hands of John Ellidge of Parmenter for Sloops  
Matthews 143 bbls per Laird Smith 120 bbls. & per Oliver  
Gifford 246. bbls flour. total 407. I have examined a  
number of bbls as they have been taken out of the store.  
I must say it is not so good a lot as I thought it when  
taken in. I think it will not be for the interest of  
Mr Copper to ship any more for the present as I think  
it will do better here than in Boston, however I will wait  
to get your opinion of the value of flour in Boston & the  
charge that will accrue on getting it on after being landed  
at St. John's or Bap river —

Wm Copper

Mr Thos<sup>d</sup>. Cropper

Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 1814

Dear Sir I was happy to receive your favour of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. dated Drummond. your family I trust were well, if otherwise I presume you would have mentioned it. Not having sold the flour I have commenced shipping it to Mr Borland via Barnstable, in two Vessels that sailed some days past. I shipped 163 bbls that is safe over the sound I presume, 244 bbls is now on board a vessel waiting the first fair wind to proceed. Many & thus say, hesitated at risking their freight on the safe arrival of the flour at Highams but agreed to pay the expence across the sound, but that no stoppage of the flour should take place, I guaranteed this freight until I should hear farther from Mr B. flour is not yet in demand at Nantucket, but I think it will be soon. I have suggested to Mr B whether it would not be for your interest to sell as much here as will pay the freight, provided it will not as much as it does in Boston, should my propositions meet his approbation it will save you the risk of so much. at present the risk is very little to Highams, but I am fearfule it will be considerable between Barnstable & Boston, as we have accounts of two or three frigates lately in Boston Bay, but no accounts of any captures yet. Mr Baker has not yet arrived home, he was in Boston a few days past. I have wrote him respecting the money left with your Mr Bundick. Mr Baker has rec'd your letter directed to Mr B. inclosing your order on Mr Borland conditional I have advised him thereof. When the remainder of the flour is shipped or sold I shall then give you an account thereof with an estimate of charges &c &c I attended the delivery of the flour from the store & cannot but think there has been some imposition somewhere I discovered several barrels that was old & sour.

My wife & family join me in love to you

& yours -

W<sup>m</sup> Coffin



To Wm Lovering

March 2<sup>d</sup> 1806

In England is Capt Josiah May, Agent  
of Freight & Wharfage of the Cropper flour I am ordered on  
J. B. Borland for the amt at 10 days sight if the order is accepted  
will you to inform me thereof & when paid you will please to pay  
the same to my Cr. I am accountable to Capt May for his ft provided  
I ship the flour all on, but I now have about 190 bbls on hand  
& wish to keep myself secure, I shall reship Mr Borland on the  
subject. We have lately had a very fortunate arrival via  
Ship Charles Grafton Gardner from the South Seas with about 1700  
bbls sperm sic her cargo is worth about \$60,000 which is the  
greatest W. Voyage we ever had her owners are Sam Cary 1/4  
Thad Coffin 1/4 the Capt 1/6 & John Cartwright & H. Folger  
1/4

Yours Wm Coffin



Coppy

To the Cropper to Josiah May —

20 ft of 600 bbls flour	15.00.
Wharfage do	18.
	<u>1518.</u>

Ten days after sight please pay the above sum off fifteen  
<sup>Eighteen</sup> hundred dollars to Wm Lovering Jr or order —

To J. B. Borland —

J. M.

Brentford March 4<sup>d</sup> 1804

To J. B. Borland

March 2<sup>d</sup> 1806

In your favour of the 14 ult came duly to hand I notice  
what you observe respecting the demand made by Capt May as respects the  
bill of lading at New Bedford previous to my receiving your letter I had ship'd some of the  
flour I have since ship'd more 400 bbls are safely deliv'd at H. L. G. I will probably  
be in Boston before this reaches you to satisfy May I guaranteed the flt to him  
he has made out his ac't of ft. & Wharfage which I have endorsed to Wm Lovering with  
an order drawn on you for the Amt. at 10 days sight when that is accept'd I shall be clear from  
my guarantee & will as soon as opportunity offers ship you the remainder of the flour  
except a few bbls which are in very bad order say eight or so then I will do the  
best I can with what I have on hand or the Cropper for there is some storage wanted

lets to pay, likewise a small advance made Mr Cropper which may come into  
that act.

Yours Wm Coffin

March 4<sup>th</sup> 1814

wrote to Mason Williams authorized him to settle with Mr  
Barker my demands on him for contract respecting Sugar & Cope  
furnished him with copies of letter &c &c

Mr Thos: Baker

Ant. March 8<sup>th</sup> 1814

In your favour of the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst came duly to hand, as  
respects the flour contract I am doubtful whether anything can be done to  
advantage. Agreeably to your request I now enclose you an order on  
Hale Thatcher & Co for one hundred dollars on Mr Loosing for fifty  
dollars & a check on Union Bank for one hundred & fifty dollars. all together  
three hundred dollars. I likewise inclose you Mr Croppers  
order on J. B. Borland for six hundred dollars. other matters in  
your of the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst I shall attend to. Mrs Baker T. P. B.  
& Miss Pinkham are well as is my family may then send you  
the same

Yours Wm Coffin

Coppy

Drummond 2<sup>d</sup> Feby 1814

Mr Jerath and B. Borland

If the flour which was stored in storehouse  
should have come to your hands & have been sold by you, out of my part you  
will please pay Mr Theodore Baker six hundred dollars for so much deposited  
with Cropper & Bundick of Drummond — sign'd Wm Coffin

Coppy

March 8 1814

Please pay Thos: Baker or order one hundred dollars & charge the same to  
out of your Natl Acc't

Wm Coffin

Wm Hale & Thatcher North Boston

March 8<sup>th</sup> 1814

Please pay Thos: Baker & da fifty dollars & charge the same to out Wm Coffin  
to Wm Loosing Jr — North Boston

N<sup>o</sup> 62 \$150.

on the 1st Bank

Ant. 8<sup>th</sup> March 1814

Cashier of the Union Bank Boston — pay to the order of Wm Coffin Esq  
one hundred & fifty dollars

Date 150

James Athas Cashier

Indors'd to Thos: Baker —

<sup>10</sup>  
Mr Wm Lovett Jr

March 8<sup>th</sup> 1814

Dear Sir Your favour of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inst is now before me. as respects the flour I am doubtful whether anything could be made by the purchase as on examination I find it of an inferior quality. & since the Sloops Cargo has been landed for market I am less inclined to purchase the Croppon flour. Ireland in this is a letter for Mr Thos Baker should he not be in Boston you may be authorized perhaps to open his letters in the one enclosed is some assistance to him Viz an order on H. & J. Thatcher for \$100. on you for \$100 & a check on the Union Bank for \$100.

May this find you in health & the full use of your limbs is the earnest wish of your affec son

Wm Coffin

Mrs & S. Leland & Hayland.

March 12<sup>th</sup> 1814

Gent: Your favour of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. for Maria Parkit came to hand yesterday. I called on the agents of Seth Superior, as respects the Cotton they informed me that out of 86 bales shipped, only 21 were sufficiently compact to ascertain with any degree of correctness their original marks. On examining the freight list I find in the mark W. 6 bales 1843. & 4 bales 1043 D. shipped by B & J. Leland consigned to A Wood. & 4 bales of the same mark shipped by Jno Webb. consigned to Jacobsen & White 1025 D. there are 4 bales only out of 16 of that mark that can be definitely

As respects 3 or 4 bales which you mentioned belonging to Mr Cheney which you suppose to be marked C or H C. on examining the list I find there were 16 bales marked C shipped by Hobrook & Butler & three bales shipped by B & J. Leland consigned to Blossom & Davis marked as follows 1 marked A & 2 marked I M. neither of which can be designated among the bales saved whole but then are of C's N<sup>o</sup> 4 & 7. 14. 15. the remainder of the cargo the Baggs brokers, rotten & torn or defaced, so that it could not be designated, & every merch wet, has been sold at auction by order of the agents, all of which must be averaged with those that are short & in that proportion. You will please forward the bills of lading as soon as may be & the buyers shall

211

be faithfully attended to. I am informed there bags or bales saved, will need considerable mounting, before they will be in a condition to be removed. however it will be several days before the agents will be ready to make an adjustment of the business. they wish for some persons to represent the whole property. As respects the sale of the Cotton I doubt whether it will bring the price you mentioned, as there has been 3 or 4 thousand weight sold, wet as it was at 12 @ 16 4 per cwt sufficient to supply the town for family use.

I notice what you say respecting Mr. Barker I am taking means through Mason Williams to bring him to a reasonable settlement peaceably if I can forceably if I must.

A Spanish Sloop was cast on shore last evening.

W<sup>m</sup> Coffer

Mr. "n" Donisthorpe & Fairbanks

March 12<sup>th</sup> 1814

Gent: Yours favours of the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst I recd by last Mail in answer to which I would observe that I know of no bone now to be had on Nantucket except about 200 D. & that has been contracted for by Lilly & Whelwright of Boston & the Gentleman holding that, considers himself at liberty to sell it, as he has not heard from them Gentlemen agreeable to expectation. I offered it to me at 62 1/2 cper cwt but I did not engage it, therefore he is at liberty to ask what his plans should I call again should you want that & it is not sold when I hear from you I mean to give you your highest limit, I will do you justice in getting it at the lowest possible price, in the interim I will make the necessary enquiry to know if there is any more to be had, something you may not assured of that we have no article expected with any & it is probable there will be no more imported into the U. S. in less than 2 years from this. I am not fully acquainted with the use of the article to know what price it must arrive at before a substitute can be made that will answer the purposes for what it is used, however at that price it will answer.

Yours W<sup>m</sup> Coffer

<sup>172</sup>  
Capt J. B. Borland

March 19<sup>th</sup> 1814

In your favour of the 10<sup>th</sup> I rec'd two  
days past I have not treated with Mr & Mrs Mary & Henry  
as yet but your proposal will no doubt be agreeable to them  
to receive from you the freight of the 407 bbls which  
you have received & look to me for the residue I dont think  
I shall be able to get the offr made me of \$13 per bbl  
but as flour is getting rather scarce here I shdge try it at  
small lot, at Auction & am inclined to think it will run  
off in two or three weeks from 12 to 13 dollars I expect to be  
in Boston in two weeks from this time, if Mary & Henry  
are willing to wait until that time I will take their  
draft on you for the amt you are willing to account for

Yours Oppn Coffin

March 21<sup>st</sup> 1814

Ludlum & Hawland

Last on a strict examination of the Cotton  
seeds from Wmch Superior I find only two that I could claim  
in the mark W. N<sup>o</sup> 3 lot<sup>o</sup> 6 which I have taken charge of. as  
respects the 3 or 4 bales which you wished me to look out for  
belonging to Mr. Henry. I claimed one marked L<sup>c</sup> which  
was one of those bales shipped by the same <sup>co</sup> that shipped Mr.  
Wood. The other two were marked T M neither of which could  
be designated those 3 were consigned to Blossom & Davis

The cotton saved was in a very bad condition the  
bag cotton & torn to pieces as most of the shippers were re-  
presented it was agreed to sell at Auction all that could  
not be claimed by masters, it brought from 9<sup>th</sup> to 18 &  
I believe it was the full value, as it was very wet no  
settlement is yet made of freight or charges but I believe  
the owners of the cotton will make but a small saving  
the two bales which I have got marked W I think can be  
repaired so as to ship by the next packet if you wish it  
but bale L<sup>c</sup> is in very bad order I dont know what  
I can do with it. I suppose it would bring about 18<sup>d</sup>

in the state it is in at Auction but as I am not certain whether it will prove to be Mr Cheney shall hold it until further proof of the property as soon as a settlement is made you shall hear from yours Wm Coffin

Mr<sup>r</sup> Dammitt & Fairbanks New Bedford March 22 1814

Hon<sup>t</sup>. I have this day purchased 5 bundles of bone weighing 188 d. I have made considerable enquiry & don't find another d in this Town for sale there is in one mans hand one or two thousand d belonging & sent for a man in New York which is all there is in Town I shall put the bone on board the Packet for N Bedford & give the necessary directions to have it forwarded to you I expect to be in Boston myself in about three weeks shall then call on you for payment —

Yours Wm Coffin

Mr<sup>r</sup> Spudlum & Howland

Nant March 24<sup>th</sup> 1814 —

Gentlemen Inclosed in this is an extract I have made from the accounts of wrecked Schooner Superior with some remarks thereon I have now the two bales of cotton marked W. N<sup>o</sup> 3 & 6 estimated at 288 d each they can be put in shipping order without any expence. Bale  $\Delta$  is very good Cotton something wet & in very bad order however I could have it packed with some little expence I thought best not to ship any of it at this time as I have not the bill of lading I am yet doubtful whether  $\Delta$  is one of the bales which you wished me to look for on account of Mr Cheney it was a long bale round & I believe came on deck but of that I am not certain you will please to give me further directions by return Packet the bale  $\Delta$  would sell for 20 & not more I doubt whether the two W's would sell for more than 68 d —

Yours Wm Coffin

That Cropper Esq

Dear brother May 2 1816

Dear Sir Since I last wrote you I have been in Boston & after consulting with Mr Borland what would be fair for you in respect to respects the flour concluded to keep at New Bedford the remainder which had not been shipped say 190 bbls & do the best I could with it I found Mr Borland had not disposed of any part of what I shipped him he paid the freight to Nantucket of the 400<sup>t</sup> which he had received in Boston & I have paid the remainder to May & Slavin. it was agreed upon between Mr Borland & myself that I should take up the order in favour of Mr Baker for 600 dollars which I have done. Mr Baker was of opinion that he ought to receive some interest on the money he left in Virginia I have not paid any but promised him that I would mention the matter to you, if you think that any ought to be allowed & with your directions will account with him, inclosed is the receipt given him & his receipt on the back of the order for the amount paid I have promised Mr Borland to account with him for the sales of the flour remaining in my hands, about one half is sold which I think will net about 12<sup>t</sup> dollars it is low but I have no doubt it will be better than Mr Borland gets taking into view the expenses attending the shippment &c & in the course of two weeks from this I presume I shall close the act of sale will then furnish you with the act of sale and that Cont. balance shall remain Mr Borland without further orders.

We have been some time in expectation of an Armistice but it has not yet arrived, every kind of business here is at a stand however I am yet in hope to have some trade with Matonkia before the season passes, Corn is now selling at 130<sup>t</sup> rather slow sales in Boston it is rather higher. We have some Neutral vessels here but they dont move much as yet We have some thoughts of getting the Porro away soon but her Voyage is not yet fixed on. my family join me in respects to you & yours

Wm Coffin.

Mr Rich. Gordon

- Nantucket June 15 1814

15

for I have called up Capt Harps & have got  
a statement of his acct. as respects the onions it appears by his  
acct they came to nothing & as the Gin was put in far un that  
has been all used & no acct of that. the balance due him on the  
23<sup>d</sup> of Decr. was 34.31 - instead of 24.31. the supplies to Nine  
& charge on flour is by his acct 40.63 & in charges two months  
ways for his service at 20 Dues. the 80 dollars he says  
he remitted in letter you mail. he has credit day Dues  
for the vessels earnings so that his last remittance to some  
whilst I hold for you to sanction. There is a balance  
due you of \$152.14. which sum Capt H. says he will  
pay as soon as he can collect the money. I dont think  
the Acct will be perfectly satisfactory to you, but I believe  
it will make no difference in the end whether the bill  
be 150 or 400. I dont think he can pay anything he  
will no doubt give his note for the above sum which  
is due allows to be due whilst if you direct I will  
apply to him for & forward it to you I have taken  
possession of the boat. have filled up the blank in  
bill of sale in my name I did not find any person  
who wanted the boat was able to pay for her I have  
therefore concluded to take her to myself at the price  
you offered her say \$450. she will sail in two or three  
days for Virginia. I will answer your draft on  
me at 3 days sight      yours      W.C.

Nantucket March 27 1820

Answered the Letter from the P. M. I. C. of the  
\$5 & inclosed Thos' Holys note & credit authenticated  
& inclosed a ten Dollar bill & 20 d<sup>s</sup> directed to  
Geo Larned

16 Mr Rich Gardner Nantucket July 2 1814  
Sir I rec<sup>d</sup> your favour of 24<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>r</sup> I inform  
with you that Capt Harps has not done you justice. he is  
now absent, gone to N. Y. I believe - as soon as he returns I  
will see what can be done with him. Agreeably to your  
request I now enclose you four hundred & fifty dollars  
as payment for the boat, in a draft of D Myrick for  
50 Dollars, an other of Geo Myrick for \$400 - both on  
Josiah Bradlee I am in hopes to see the boat back in  
10 or 12 days - with a load of Corn -

Copy of draft inclosed.

Mr Josiah Bradlee

Nantucket June 30 1814

Sir I shall pay Wm Coffin or order  
the sum of fifty dollars & charge the same to your  
Ob<sup>t</sup> Account.

Yrs truly David Myrick

Indorsed by Wm Coffin payable to Richd Gardner  
or order

To Josiah Bradlee  
Murt & Norton

Nantucket July 2 1814

Please pay William Coffin or order four  
hundred Dollars Value Recd & Charge to Acct

of  
Signed Geo Myrick -

Indorsed payable to Richard Gardner  
by  
Wm Coffin -

Mr Wm C Barker

Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 1814

for your favour of the  
9<sup>th</sup> Inst with acct of Sale of Bill for two boats  
came duly hand from which it would appear  
that the money for sales wadd not be due for  
some time to come but at present

32

there is an opportunity to receive profits  
from N.Y. at a very small hazard & should  
like to have the amount coming due in  
that is the balance that may be due shipped  
in Conv for Capt Hayden in Sloop Experiment  
indisposing which you will very much oblige  
Yours Ott Son & Capp G.

I thank you but I do

Mr Wm Barker Sir you will please to despatch of the  
Oil shipped you for the set Ringers from the one last W.C. 119 q  
tan barrel 2 half dr & one dr about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of bbl of Cod Liver Oil for  
my account & ship me 200 bushells Corn which the Capt of D'Cham  
has agreed to take the balance in flour if he will take it on board. I wish  
the flour to be of the best quality as it is for my family use

Yours Mr Capp

if we should have liberty to ship that from this, it is probable I shall  
ship some to N.Y. Please to inform what you think they will bring  
at that market. Good, scale & packed W.C.

Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 1811

To Wm C. Barker

I have shipped to you by  
Capt Hayden 4 bbl Cod Liver Oil marked  
W.C. shall ship by Capt Gettison in the Ringers  
4 or 5 barrels more shall want in return  
say about the Am't in Value in each barrel in flour  
Yours Capp



38

Baltimore Oct 29 1814

Mr & Mrs Parker & Co

Gentlemen

Inclosed is a bill  
of Exchange on you for \$135<sup>c</sup> will you please to  
ship the amount in flour for Mr. Bering San  
Cptl Gelston if you cannot make it exact you  
will pay him the balance or as the case may  
be call on him for the balance I have sent you  
the first of exchange should you wish the <sup>2d</sup> with  
my receipt on it I will forward it

yours Wm Clegg

Plan to let the flour be of the first  
quality Philadelphia if to be had —

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 1814

Mrs D Sudbor & Son

Gent<sup>r</sup> I received your favor  
of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult inclosing 322 dollars want money to  
be exchanged which I have effected & now have a check  
on the State Bank for \$ 293 & the remainder (as well  
as an hundred dollars which I rec<sup>d</sup> from Mr. Sars)  
in specie making all together including the hundred &  
fifty dollars <sup>I rec'd</sup> of you \$ 572. I should have forwarded  
the money & check at this time was it not for a sale  
that is to take place next Tuesday of a few hds Rum  
10 or 12 hds of Cotton 10,000 wt of Sugar & a dr  
baile Cotton & a few bags Coffee at which time  
I will lay out your money if I think it for your  
advantage. if you have any opportunity before the  
sale should wish to know how high you would authorise  
me to go the goods are all legally entered & will be  
weighed & gauged by the Custom house officers I will  
give you my opinion of what I think the good

19

will sell at Sylar from 16<sup>00</sup> to 18<sup>00</sup> Rum 2<sup>d</sup> per gal. 160<sup>00</sup> or  
180<sup>00</sup> Cotton free from damage about 28<sup>c</sup> some that  
is partially damaged perhaps much cheaper. Coffee  
about 25<sup>c</sup>. Should the article not go higher than I  
have estimated & I have no counter orders I shall  
lay your money out for your Recd. -

Yours Wm Coffin



2.1.14

2. 3

2. 3. 7

2. 3. 14

2. 2. 21

2. 0. 4

2. 2. 21

18. 1. 14 tax

1. 3. 19

16. 1. 23	to \$16.50	—	—	270.50
1 hhd Rum	110 gall @ 170	—	—	187.
1 bale Cotton	- 335 @ 22 <sup>c</sup>	—	—	75.60
1 do	" 290. C 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>	—	—	32.87
				<u>564.97</u>

Mr: D. Suddor & Son

The above is an invoice of goods  
brought on your account which I will ship if you  
will direct me so to do they have all passed the  
Custom house & were lost at the Marshall's sales  
would it not be well for Mr D Suddor to come  
and bring 4 or 5 hundred dollars more I think  
he might lay it out to advantage if nothing  
better offered he could buy flour @ 12 @ 12<sup>c</sup>  
Dollars Phila & F new

Wm Coffin

<sup>20</sup> Rev. Mr. Tolton

Nant. Nov 15 1814

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inst. I  
only rec'd. I am very happy if my son Wm has left the E. P.  
of Bridgewater with a good name & doubly so if he has merited  
the regards of your good family as respects his prospects in his  
studies. I am glad you can speak favourably on that  
score, I have sent him to Mr. Swift & shall use  
my endeavours for his close application during the time  
he shall remain there & am in hopes to return him  
to you next spring something advanced, so that you  
may have him well fitted for College when the  
due time arrives. The bill you forwarded me has  
been paid to Mr. V. Mitchell at which time  
I committed paying him ten Dollars which  
W<sup>m</sup> rec'd from a Mr Whitman (Butcher) of Nant.  
money to be exchanged, will you be so good as to  
address Mr Whitman the money & let me by  
stand charged the amt. to your Sureties. I have  
an opportunity to repay you the sum  
My self Wife Mrs. Coffin & the family tender  
you & your good Family our best respects

Yours W<sup>m</sup> Coffin

Mr. J Parkman

Nov 21 1814

Sir I acknowledge the rec't of yours dated Sandwick  
9<sup>th</sup> Inst. I have made enquiry & find no dividend has been made of the  
stock in the B. B. since the 45/- £. was paid. & the last of the B. B. gives  
it as his opinion that nothing further will be paid until 1816. As respects  
the N. M. & C. no dividend has been made since Nov 17. in Jan'y last the  
Directors of the Inst<sup>r</sup> estimated their stock at 30/- per £. I don't think it has  
added or diminished much since that date however some of that stock  
has been sold at Auction not long since at 18/- per £. I was at the sale & enquiring  
of the officers of the Inst<sup>r</sup> present & wished to know the full value that  
a share would go at bid against them & had it struck off to me  
at the above rate

yours W<sup>m</sup> Coffin

Wm C. Caffin

Dec 20<sup>th</sup> 1814

21

Sir Will you please to ship me the balance  
of the little property which now remains in your hands to my C<sup>o</sup>  
& forward me your A/c. Cart. I should prefer the balance in Corn  
but if that is not convenient flour will answer.

Last Com<sup>r</sup> Barnard informs me that he shipped to you  
from Philadelphia for my A/c 4 barrels of flour you will  
please ship that on I am no further particular as  
to what vessel you ship on than it should be one of  
those which we consider safe & ready for the Albany  
Experiment Galen or Comet.

Yours Wm Caffin

Mr Walter Baker

Dec 29<sup>th</sup> 1814

Sir your favoured dated Milton Dec<sup>r</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1814 this day came to hand  
in answer to which I would observe that we have more flour on hand at  
this time than can be marketed here & the holders of that article are in expecta-  
tion of some other market, the nominal price is 10*s* Dall<sup>r</sup> for N.Y  
1*A* & 1*D* day Phil<sup>s</sup> S. St. Corn at 110*s* & 112*s* in demand at this time  
no market here for Peas & very limited is the market for To-  
bacco & I have my doubts whether it is an article allured in such  
vessels who are said to sail under license, as well as I understand  
the liberty of such vessels it is to import provisions & other necessaries  
how far the article of Tobacco would go toward being considered  
a necessary I do not know. It is certain our vessels do bring  
some but I believe in a very limited degree. Both Banks at  
Nantucket pay Specie for their bills, how long the Phoenix will con-  
tinue so to do I cannot say I am a little doubtful of them, but the  
Pacific I should say would be the last Bank in the U.S. that would  
refuse Specie for their bills, they have more specie at their command  
than they have bills in circulation & are determined never to refuse  
specie for the same, Bills or drafts on Boston are generally to be  
had New York money cannot be negotiated except at a very great  
discount I should say 25 to 30 per cent discount, as our Gentlemen  
have been shipping their goods on to N.Y & have consider-  
able funds that way, this will cut for the very large supply of flour now

27 on hand I believe I have now answered all your enquiries  
I had myself ready to assist you in your endeavor to get your  
funds from N.Y. realized at Nantucket

You may make use of my name if you please in ship to  
from N.Y. in either of the following vessels which I believe  
are all the favourable. An Experiment Slaydon Compton Swan  
Anney. Robinson. & Isabella boat Gistion. Should you ship, your  
bill of lading must express for my account or that of  
some other person at Nantucket if further advice is wanted  
at N.Y. I would recommend to you my friend Wm C. Barker who  
does all my business in that place Mr Theodore Baker  
a friend of mine has been ~~in~~ lately concerned in shipping  
flours to this place he is of Dedham should you fall in with him  
& make use of my name to him I presume he would give you  
better information respecting the trade of this place than the  
limits of a letter will permit me to do.

Yours sincerely  
Wm Coffin

Mr P. Robertson.

Jan 2 1815

for This will go by Capt. Will Clark  
in the Sch. Neutral in which I am one eighth concerned  
on board of her I have shipped seven cask of onions & one cask of salt  
per At. annexed you will please to dispose of the same I will not  
proceeds of the same towards loading the vessel in return agreement  
to your instructions from Mr Gardner and me who is the prin-  
cipal owner of the vessel But I should wish to have from  
you the value of the above articles & the amt of the cargo  
laid in that I may settle with Mr Gardner as respects  
my part of the Return cargo

Yours Wm Coffin

Onions	Plates	Sett	Per 10 bushels
			2-9
			4-14 "
			5-3 3/4 "
			6-4 "
			7-3 1/2 "
			8-11 1/2 "
			9-14 "
			10-3 1/2 "
			11-13 1/2 "
			12-13 1/2 "
			915 bushels
			87 1/2 bushels

Capt T. D. Bassett  
Melville Prison  
Halifax

Nantucket, Jan'y 3 1815

Sir I embrace the present opportunity by the Side Gottland  
a Neutral Vessel which is to proceed from thence to Halifax as a  
Flag for the purpose of endeavouring to obtain the release of  
prisoners belonging to Nantucket, I have to acknowledge the receipt of two letters from  
dated Melville prison, have answered one agreeable to your request I wrote  
to Ad<sup>r</sup> Coffin he being the only man that I was acquainted with that could have  
any influence towards releasing you from the disagreeable situation in which  
the wretched vicious, unnecessary & unjust War (in my opinion) had placed you  
if I knew of anything that I could do more towards your discharge with pleasure  
I would undertake it. After the Newcastle landed, sometime past twenty or more  
of the Endemion crew that had fallen into her hands she landed about 17  
mariners mate &c. of vessels which she had captured altho unknown to  
those men I obtained their liberty to proceed to Halifax & elsewhere but they  
left the Island while I was out of Town before I had the opportunity to  
lay the foundation of your discharge with that of some others whose liberty  
I feel interested in. I shall by this opportunity write to Mr Seth Coleman of  
Dartmouth, to him I am well known & I have been informed that he has some  
influence with the Gov Officers at Halifax I shall state to him that you was taken  
in a vessel that I was concerned in & request him to use his endeavours as far  
as possible to ameliorate your sufferings. I received sometime past letters  
for you & some other unfortunate confined with you which I shall now  
forward a list of which follows T. D. Bassett 2 Ebenezer C. G. Lovell Richd  
Beane & Joshua Innes & Holbrook Ladd & Henry Suddard. I likewise enclose  
40 Dollars paper money to exchange into specie & forward to you & in case of your  
absence so & all was to be delivered to Henry Suddard I shall send the money  
agreeably to my instructions by Capt J. W. Clark in the Gottland hope it  
may safely arrive to your hands if you can get released or paroled so as  
to come up in the Gottland passage & provisions is provided for you & all other  
prisoners in her free of expense to you & them but should you still be held  
& stand in need of further pecuniary I will answer your bills drawn on  
me for any thing within the bound of reason

Mr Coffin  
Jan'y 5<sup>th</sup> since writing the foregoing I have rec'd letters from Mr H. Suddard inform  
ing the death of his son & requesting me to return the letter directed to him & 20 Dollars  
of the money so that instead of 40 before mentioned you will only receive 20 less  
Capt Jos: W. Clark who will proceed in the Gottland —

Wm Coffin

M Thos: Barker

Jan'y 12 1815

When you left Nant' you authorised me to ship your salt on any vessel on which I would be equally concerned with you, an opportunity offered which I thought worth the risk it was to ship salt & onions to Charleston S.C. in the <sup>of your</sup> Neutral (Capt Ebd Clark) I ship 7 bagshead onions & 8<sup>1/2</sup> bushl salt. the whole expence of last truckay &c. amounted to 181.73 £. on equal cost for you & myself. which when sold in south Carolina will no doubt load one eighth of the vessel which is calculated to bring 200 Cask of rice. It is so high forward that I had best to take & risk one eighth of the vessel in consequence I pay no freight either way I am to pay at the rate of 500 dollars for the vessel the outfit will probably run her up to 700. which will make an 1/8 part worth about 90 dollars the cargo laid in & the vessel will amount to £ 270 or there about. I now propose that you be equally concerned with me as well in vessel as cargo. let me hear from you. Aunt Pcial & all our family are well & join me in respects to you & your Lady ——————— Yrs affec

P.S. the Neutral said last Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst a flag for Halifax sailed at the same time Com: for W Blakely ———————

Yrs G. Barker

Jan'y 26 1814

In your favour of the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst came duly to hand with yours As Cm<sup>t</sup> annexed which on examination I believe to be correct so far as it goes but I do not find a cask of oil to which you refer on the return sum gettton your letter 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 1814 acknowledge the receipt of the oil agreeably to the bill of lading. I find the shipment was made Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 1814 W D 119 Q. 10 bbl, 2 hlf do 1 one keg Linen Oil perhaps the W D is not sold if so it is accounted for why not Consider I rec<sup>d</sup> two bbl flour remainder of the flour ship<sup>d</sup> by Brown & Barnard from Phila<sup>d</sup> 5 bbl shipped by you for the Army

devoid Mr Barker to the best of the above mentioned in some safe place in Conn ——————— Am (off)

Mr Jacob Barker

Nantucket Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 1815

for Mr Appel Barker has this day shown me a letter from you in which you requested him to inform me that you had a small balance in your hands belonging to the Estate of Bethuel Pinkham I had brought the Estate between you & the Estate had been settled however as Executor to the Estate I have given Mr Wm C. B. an order on you for the balance in your hands belonging to s<sup>d</sup> Estate

I dont know whether you are acquainted with Bethuel Pinkhams son Geo: R Pinkham he has been about two years with Nicanor Allen in N. Y. for the last 6 or 8 months has been on Nantucket has thoughts of returning to N.Y to seek business in some store. if you can render him any service it will be gratefully acknowledged by your Ob<sup>r</sup> Servt (Appel Cuffin)

Copy of order.

Please to pay Wm C. Barker the balance that may remain in your hands belonging to the Estate of Bethuel Pinkham & his recpt shall be your discharge

Wm Cuffin

To Jacob Barker Merchant  
New York

Executor

Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 1815

Mrs Domet & Fairbanks

Genl! — Yours of the 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. Recd on the 17<sup>th</sup> Inst since which I have made enquiry respecting W Bone I dont find but one man in this Town that has any & he has 5 or 7 hundred weight he says it is very dry & good in the slab. & if it is not shipped or sold before I hear from you, he has engaged I shall have it at 75 c<sup>s</sup> per lb he observes to me that he expects to take it with him to Philadel<sup>ph</sup> in about 2 weeks from this time if the weather should be moderate You will make your

calculation about bone but I would wish to give  
you mine I dont think any bone will be brought  
into our market for sale procured by our Vessels before  
can the Peace made should be ratified before  
April or May 1816 that being the earliest time  
for Vessel to return that will be fitted out next  
spring

I am Gentlemen your  
Obl Servt Wm C.

I shall forward this by a gentleman that will leave  
this before the mail who will put it in to some post  
Office on the Continent if you should wish me to make  
the purchase for you I should be glad to have the information  
as soon as possible as I expect to leave this for Boston  
by the 16<sup>th</sup> of March

Wm C  
Nantucket Feb 21 1815

Mrs. Ingraham Richardson & Co

Gent. Your favour of the 31<sup>st</sup> ult  
I received on the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. & agreeably to your request will  
subjoin a statement of your goods as it now stands or nearly  
so. Business has been exceeding dull with us for some  
months past. however we are in hopes of better times.

Should you think proper to send goods this way  
I will render you all the assistance in my power.  
Mr Woodcock would be the best judge of what kind is  
most wanted in this place

Mr Cuffie

a statement forwarded

P.S. When Mr W was at Nantucket he made use of Jon:  
Briggs to carry out goods to sell after Mr W left here I did  
the same calling him often to ask notwithstanding which he by  
deceiving me run off (self family) with about 50 Dollars worth of  
goods & I have not heard of him since. Should you learn where he  
is & see any prospect of bringing him to As. I will forward you a  
statement of the business

W.C

Wm Cornelia Greenhill

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1815 27

I recently received yours of  
the 21<sup>st</sup> ult. Informing me that Western Jenkins of Palmetto  
had been directed to ship me for your A/c 18 Cask & 2 half Casks  
of Rice which you wished me to make sale of on the best terms  
possible. Two Vessels via Mail Packet & Sally have arrived from  
St. but the Rice has not yet come to hand, perhaps the next  
arrival may bring it, I will then inform you what can be  
done with it. I shall attend to your observations respecting  
the weight

J. M. Coffin

Apr 6 1815

Wm. Low Lewis & Co

I have sold. of your Skye  
lights which has not been amounted for.

Sold	{	6. 5 <sup>m</sup>
		7. 6 <sup>m</sup>
		3. 7 <sup>m</sup>

un sold	{	14 - 5 <sup>m</sup>
		8 - 4 <sup>m</sup>
		12. 7 <sup>m</sup>

& 3 bin. Illuminators

If I ever received a bill of the three illuminators  
I have lost or mislaid it, will you please to for-  
ward another & I think when our Vessels are about  
sailing I shall be able to sell a number of Skye  
lights & some of the Illuminators

J. M. Coffin

Joseph Head Esq.

Apr 6<sup>th</sup> 1815

In your favour of the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst. I rec'd this  
day & show it to Mr. G. Gardner, he says he will take the ship  
on the terms you mention if he finds her to answer the  
expectations he has formed of her from the representa-  
tion made. He will proceed his self to Boston in two  
or three days —

J. M. Coffin

Apr 16 1815

Mr G. Gardner the gentleman with whom  
I have been in treaty for the sale of your Ship George  
now proceeds to Boston should she answer his expectation  
he will no doubt be ready to close a bargain with you.

As to the standing of Mr Gardner or rather the house  
of Gideon Gardner & Son as I suppose that is or will be  
the firm I have no hesitation in saying that I consider  
them perfectly safe & was I about to sell them a ship  
I should want no better security than their paper they  
are not in the habit of lending their name therefore  
would feel a deficiency in asking for an indenture for them  
selves this is not written at the request of Mr Gardner  
but it is in consequence of some conversation I  
have had with him touching the security you  
might require —

You Chff

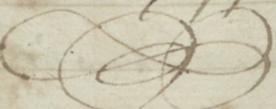
To Jas Head Esq  
Boston —

Apr 15 1815

Cornhill

In your favour of the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst I this day  
received for Maria Packet the Rice shipped to me per last Junta,  
arrived when I was in Boston. I have advertised it but I don't find any  
sale for it as yet our whalers are setting away & the probability  
is that some will be wanting a little time hence but generally  
speaking Nantucket is not a good market for rice there is very  
little expended in this Town I wish you to mention the lowest  
terms that it will answer to sell at.

You Chff



Mr James Hall

Apr 18<sup>th</sup> 1815

29

Dear Sir I have been made use of to settle a controversy between the board of overseers of the poor of Medford & Capt W. Worth as respects our Blanchard an apprentice to Capt Worth. Mr Isaac Brooks one of that board informed me under date of the 14<sup>th</sup> that he would leave the port of New Bedford which the board then paid, with you. & on the payment of 25 Dollars you would deliver the same — I have rec'd of Capt Worth the money & now forward you that part of the Indenture Capt Worth held & have the promise of Capt Reuben Starkweather of Sloope Fair American that he will pay you that sum for my use you will please deliver him the Indenture if left with you & a rec't of the money paid I am Sir  
Yours Ott Servt Wm Coffin

Apr 18<sup>th</sup> 1815

Mrs Whitney & Son

Dear! "I wish you to ship me by Sloop Fair American Capt R Starkweather at the lowest price you can afford them 20 grand stones of the following dimensions / which we wish to sent over Viz / from 18 to 22 Ton by 32 to 42 & forward the bill of the same, if it is convenient for Capt Starkweather he will pay the bill if it is not, I will forward the money as soon as may be

Wm Coffin

Mr C. Grinnell

Apr 29 1815

Sir your favour of the 19<sup>th</sup> I recd came duly to hand I have followed your instructions as respects the sale of the Rice I tried it at 200 & 240 cwt each & I was fully satisfied that it would not bring more than 3 1/4 of pds by 200 cwt each sold at that by the single 100 & since which I have engaged to the Ship outfitters nearly the whole of the remainder & probably shall get clear of the whole at the price above except it is probable a week or two will elapse before those who have engaged will take it & I shall then you out of sales. Should more be wanting I will give you the earliest notice  
The Rice appears of good quality not forwarded

Wm Coffin

30

Dear  
Mr GrinnellMay 8<sup>th</sup> 1815

for your favour of the 19<sup>th</sup> ult came duly to hand I have postponed answering to this time in hopes to have been able to give you an A/c of Sales of the lot of Rice we have from Falmouth for your A/c. I can now inform you that I tried it at Boston & sold 4 or 5 Casks by the Cut to be weighed out at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  f. since which I have been married with the fitters out of our Whale Ships I believe for the whole sum half of which is delivered & in a few days the remainder will be called for. I shall then forward an A/c of Sales it is sold for cash & the money will be paid on delivery but I could not raise it above 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  f. I cannot say whether more will be wanted but if you send more I will do the best I can with it but I could not encourage the sending of any more with an expectation of its bringing than the price above quoted  
Wm Coffin

There is a plenty of Rice here  
from N.Y. but it is committed  
at 4 f per D

Mr Grinnell

May 12 1815

I now forward you the sale of Rice  
I hope it may be found correct I have not yet recd  
the money but some time next week shall collect the  
whole I shall then remit it in Nantucket or Boston  
money here you may draw on me & it shall be paid  
at sight  
Wm Coffin

P.S. I believe a few bushels more would sell at the same  
price but not higher —

Mr James Hall

May 13 1816

I presume you rec'd a line from me undr date 18<sup>th</sup> Apr: but I find Capt. Humpback did not pay up the 25 Dols which was to take up the Indenture between Capt B. Worth & the overseers of the Town of Medford. I now enclose you that sum will you please to forward me the Indenture & receipt for the money recd.

Yours

Wm Coffin

Mr Edward Watkinson

May 19<sup>th</sup> 1816

Hartford

sir In the Autumn of 1813 I shipped by Mr James Bigelow a quantity of Oil to Hartford part of which being formed on his return was left in your hands for sale 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Liver Oil 1 bbl & 1/2 do Humpback do. Mr T. Winslow a partner of Mr Bigelow shew me a letter from you undr date of the early part of this month in which you observe that one bbl of Humpback oil marked WC was sold & that the Liver oil was unsold & due at 19<sup>8</sup> which was much below his hands. It is a mistaken idea that some people have of limiting a thing sent to market. Therefore I take the liberty of the Oil marked WC & request that you will sell it & certainly for the most it will bring but sell it & you would particularly oblige me if when sold you would forward me list of sales & charges deducted.

Yours Wm Coffin

*15* Cornelius Grinnell Jr. Dartmouth May 22<sup>d</sup> 1815

Your favour of the 17<sup>d</sup> Inst! came duly to hand & agreeably to your request I now inclose you the amt due for sales of Rice as per A/c at first I believe a few more casks of Rice would sell but I dont think it would bring more than 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  cts per pound

Open Coffin

Dr Cornelius Grinnell in Out Cnt with Open Coffin Cr  
1815 10 postage ..... 19

Inland 1 bill State Bank.	100.	By Wt sales of Rice
1 do Boston	100.	per Out Sdwar { 305.61
1 do N England	20	forwarded
1 do Massachus. <sup>t.</sup>	20.	
1 do Providence	10	
1 do Phoenix	30	
1 do Pacific	20	
1 do do	5	
2 do Phoenix	5. - 10.	
Change	<u>42</u>	
	<u>305.61</u>	

No 462 Oct 10 - 1812. to Wm Brown Boston Bank 100.

signed Jas Chapman Cash Jn T. Arthur P.

16. Mar 10. 1815 to James Monroe State Bank  
signed S Frothingham Cash Wm Gray P. } 100 -

298. Oct 18. 1813. to J Marshall New England Bank  
signed E Frothingham Jr Cash Matt Goddard P. } 20.

697. Nov 20. 1811 to J Quincy Massachusetts  
signed J Thwing Cash Wm Phillips P. } 20. -  
a very remarkable bill which appears to have sold in  
the paper red & blue -

36. March 24 1814 to B Hopper Providence Bank  
signed Wm Thompson Cash Thos Peters Presid } 10.

403 7<sup>m</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> m. to A Jackson Phoenix Bank.

P-H. Taylor & Jos Chase } 30.

28 & 784 27<sup>m</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> m. to H. Clay. Phoenix Bank 5. } 10

636. 5<sup>m</sup> of 10<sup>m</sup> 1812 to C Mitchell Pacific Bank. } 10  
signed as above

710 " " both signed Jamesithorn & do do do } 5

305

Mr. C. Greenill

(May 26 1815)

33

for payment of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst is at hand you will  
receive & pay the receipt of the money forwarded you in my last. I am  
sorry you could give me no information respecting the 10th of N<sup>o</sup> 14  
vessel of Rice, as I am inclined to think I rated it rather too high in W<sup>th</sup> &  
am inclined to think from 10 to 15. Cost of Rice will run at 7<sup>½</sup> cents  
I have engaged two only at that Rate, the Charlotte from Charles  
too has arrived here it was expected she would bring considerable  
of that article she brought but few casks which sold readily I  
believe at 3<sup>½</sup> — you will please to send two if no more  
that much I have promised —

Yrs Coffin.

Mrs. Whitney & Sons

Gentlemen

May 27 1815

Yours of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst with a  
bill of 20 grand stonit came to hand this day the stones  
arrived a few days past but quite to late for the demand  
when Mr. Smith arrived the 2<sup>d</sup> trip (without them) after  
I wrote you I had no expectation that they would  
come however as they are here I shall keep them  
I now enclose you an order on W<sup>m</sup> Lovings for  
for the Am't

Yrs Coffin

(copy) Value recd<sup>n</sup> pay to the order  
of William Coffin Fifty one dollars & 85<sup>c</sup> to place the  
same to account of yours T. Holger  
To also W<sup>m</sup> Lovings Jr.  
Marcht Boston —

Paid T. Holger 10.

I am left — 41. 85

88  
To Mr Lovering

June 5<sup>th</sup> 1815

Sir I bought a draft of Tim Folger  
on you for \$135/00 & inclosed it to Whitney & Dorr to pay that  
amount which I owed them. Mr Folger this day informed  
me that you had remitted him all the money he had in your  
hands, he has settled with me. the draft did not leave here  
before yesterday, will you be so good as to pay the same  
for my acct, if you can make it convenient draw on me  
if not I will remit the money as soon as may be

Yours Wm Coffin

June 5<sup>th</sup> 1815

Mrs W & Dorr First I enclose of the 27<sup>th</sup> ult I enclosed  
a draft on Mr Lovering for \$135/00 the amt of your bill for  
20 grand stones I took the draft from a bank in this Town since  
which he informs me Mr Lovering has remitted him all the  
money he had in his hands perhaps Mr's may have refused  
the payment however I have now written him to pay the  
draft for my acct if it is not returned

Yours Wm Coffin

No 6 Yarmouth

June 5<sup>th</sup> 1815

Sir I wrote you on the 26<sup>th</sup> ult in  
which I observed that 10 or 15 Cents of Rice would in my opinion  
bring 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  \$ per lb - which you had observed you would ship somet  
there is two persons now claiming on me this sum in each of two casks  
which they say I promised, I well recollect promising one of them  
that I would furnish him with two casks & it is highly probable I did  
the other if you have any on hand I wish you would enable me  
to comply as I did it on the strength of what you wrote

Yours W.C.

Mr. Wm Lovings Jr

June 14<sup>th</sup> 1805

35

in your favour of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst you will  
Caroline came duly to hand I find agreeably to my wish that you  
have paid Messrs Whitney & Dow Mr T Holgers draft for \$1 85/00  
dolls - inclosed you will have a check on Union Bank for that  
amount if any deduction is made by W & D you will accept  
that in part for your trouble & what further may be due stand  
accountable for

yours Wm Coffin

Copy of check

Nantucket Pacific Bank

No 95 51 dolls 85/00

Nantucket 14<sup>th</sup> June 1805

Cash of the Union Bank.

pay to the order of Wm Coffin Esq fifty one dollars &  
eighty five cents sign'd James Athorn Cashier

Date 51. 85/00

Indorsed pay Wm Lovings Jr Wm Coffin

June 14<sup>th</sup> 1805

Mr W G Barker

Aug 14<sup>th</sup> 1805

for I have agreeable to your ant a balance  
in your hands of about \$130 will you please to ship me  
the amount on board the sloop Lydia Capt E Matthews  
in Tas including a few barrels of spirits. The Lydia  
belongs equally between the Captain & myself & the Captain  
is to have if you can make any freight for her to Nantucket  
I should be glad to

Wm Coffin

Copy of letter to Geo: Myrick dated

Geo Myrick

London 26 May 1815

Sir  
In your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. did not reach us till a long time after its date & we have from day to day delayed replying to that & your esteemed favour of the 4<sup>th</sup> of January last in expectation of hearing from Geo Myrick Jr to whom we forwarded your letter to the care of our friends in Paris; but to this moment we are without advice from him. We have now to acquaint you that your remittance £28.13..9 on Lown: Virtually was duly paid & we have just received a rem: from yours and from Mr Josiah Bradlee of Boston in a bill for £100. on Robt M Fullford. which is accepted & at maturity it will be paid to your credit. We inclose a letter for Capt Wm Stubb so that he may see the state of his account & dispose of it accordingly. We rejoice at the termination of the War hoping it will recover intercourse with our old friends at your Island.

Yours, Signed Tho' Dickason & Co

Copy to Wm Stubb —

London 26 May 1815

Sir Contrary to expectation we turned your Quapinto some account through a foreign house after paying charges it has left you £13.1.10 so much less'd, for you did not expect a six pence from it at first it is a memorandum of your account & we await your further orders before we make a transfer to Mr Myrick —

Signed Tho' Dickason & Co

To Capt W Stubb

To paid Hancocks & Sons, Expan £6.1.8

By H Sales 2 bals Cotton  
16.8 2.12.11

Credited J Cartwright & Sons

" do loan — 7.8

for his order — }

" deer skins — 6.2.2

our skins 6.2.2

" Wt Bale Cotton 8.17.5

Loone Cotton — 78 6.9.00

10.11.6

20.10.5

31.1.2.

" Louisiana — 13.1.10

31.2."

Hope & Co Diccason & Co  
London

Stamford Aug<sup>st</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1815

37

Gent: After the return of Capt W Stubbe from his unfortunate voyage in Brig Union I called on him for an account of a bale of Cotton I shipped by & consigned to him, he informed me he had left it in your hands to be sold, he then on the bill of lading directed the proceeds to be paid to myself on order, which Bill I demand to Geo Myrick, but Mr Myrick has lately shown me a letter to Capt S. from you which cause induced to him, in looking at the statement of Stubbs account, it does not appear that the proceeds of the bale of Cotton marked W C (which is the owner & attorney) has been transferred to Mr Myrick, which I think you can honestly do, agreeably to the order on the bill of lading. Capt Stubbs became very poor removed from thence to Boston, was there taken for debt & was for considerable time on the limits, he has been discharged & now follows the sea but where gone I dont know. the Guassia mentioned in your acct. was the property of Mr Jn Swain of this place the deer skins & other Cotton belonged to Mr Cartwright so that in fact none of the property left belonged to Capt Stubbs therefore he has paid no attention to the business.

Yours Wm Coffin

P.S. I shall hand this up to Mr Myrick who will forward it to you

Aug<sup>st</sup> 22 1815

Mr Edw<sup>d</sup> Horrman

Fix your acct: of the 24000\$ written at the request

of the Pres: of the Fed M. I Co I came duly to hand I have delayed answering until now in hopes that after reminding Mr Stab Coffin Mr Paddock has removed from this of the sum due the Fed M. I Co. that he would have provided for the payment of the same but all the answer he gives is that he was taken as a trustee to B. Bunker & he is afraid that if he pays the sum that it will not be allowed in his acct against Mr B. therefore he does not appear to be disposed to do anything about the business until he gets the opinion of Sup: Court on that point

Wm Coffin

Mr & Watkinson  
Hartford Conn

Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 1815

Sir I addressed you in my last respecting some Oil left in your Islands in the autumn of 1813 by Mr James Bigelow eight bbls of Oil I understand one half of Humpback do belonged to me marked WC from a letter shown me by Mr Bigelow from you under date of the early part of May 1815 it appeared that the Oil was unsold having been limited much beyond what it would bring at your market In my letter above alluded to I requested it might be sold & the sales forwarded me I have not as yet heard anything from you will you be so good as to give me a state of the business in doing which you will particularly oblige you must be

Yours & affec Coffin

Asper Hall & Thaxter

Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 1815

Gentlemen Capt Meador of Sloop Charlotte lately wrecked at Martinica, informs his owners of which I was one that he had shipped on his ship Sloop Capt Stanwood for Boston 13 hhds one barrel Molasses, consigned to Isaac Hale Merchant Boston meant to be Hall & Thaxter. This property is part of the Charlotte cargo saved, but shipped in the name of Capt Meador. It is Meadors request since advising with his agent, that you dispose of the Molasses & remit the net proceeds to me in Treasurers Notes such as will answer & are receivable at the Custom House in this place for duties

Yours affec Coffin

P.S. The smaller the denomination of the note, the better if we have more than sufficient to pay our duties they will answer to pay chain, watch, furniture of a boat of direct Tax &c —

W.C.

W C Banks

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> 1815

39

In answerable to your last Cont dated Augt 14 1815 which I believe to be correct there is a balance due me of \$121<sup>36</sup>/100 you will please to ship that and to me in a few bbls of Pitt & the remainder in Tare by the Omega if she can take it if not in some other vessel bound here

I am Dr S

W Coffin

Jan 25 1816

Wm Lovering Jr sir Inclnd in an order I this day took on you from Tim<sup>t</sup> Folger for \$158<sup>36</sup>/100 with you to remit to Benj R Nichols Salom five dollars the balance I wish you to vest in Treasurers notes small if to had such as will answer to pay taxe with & forward them to me the first convenient opportunity at my risk - I have nothing else to communicate

Yours Wm Coffin

Copy of order

Nantucket Jan 25 1816

\$ 158<sup>36</sup>/100 Value recd please to pay Wm Coffin or order one hundred & fifty dollars &<sup>eight</sup> & place the same to my account

Timothy Folger

to Wm Lovering Jr

Murphy Boston

Indorse

Place to my acct Wm Coffin

Feb 25<sup>th</sup> 1816

Wm Lovering sir I wrote you on the 25<sup>th</sup> ult. & inclnd an order on you from Timothy Folger for \$158<sup>36</sup>/100 & requested you to remit to Benj R Nichols of Salom & dole the balance to be vested in Treasurers notes & forwarded me the first convenient opportunity not having heard any thing from you since I have been fearfull that either my letter or your answer might have miscarried I handed the letter to a Boston gentleman

who was here with money from the N<sup>o</sup> 2 Bank who promised he would drop it at your store. It is not that I am in hast for the notes, but to know the safety of the thing, that induces me thus to trouble you, nothing remarkable at Nantucket no foreign arrival since the Bonif she had a full cargo of salt & nothing more except about half a dozen pipes of Wine she has made no money this voyage & what we shall do with her next is uncertain I am rather inclined to think we shall send her after Elephant Oil (if we should get favourable accounts from Patagonia) & from thence to Lisbon or some other port in Europe

Wm Coffin

Something has taken place lately, that has called up again the business of the Robbery of the Nantucket Bank. however that is a thing that can not be very interesting <sup>to you</sup> having taken place before you became acquainted with the place or the people - but should you have the curiosity to what I allude to, you will please call on Wm Hammatt esq. I have made him acquainted with the business there is no secrecy in the business

W.C.

Nantucket March 11<sup>th</sup> 1816

Wms Barker & Hopkins

gent I have shipped to you per Clock Experiment Capt Hayden two pipes of L.P. Madura Wine Imported in Bois Bonif it cost me exclusive of freight \$403. per pipe, what it cost may be no detriment to you in the sales you will get the most you can for it. Capt Hayden of the Exp<sup>t</sup> will hand you the Certificate.

I am about to fit out the Bonif for the Coast of Patagonia for Elephant Oil am in want of 200 bbls of second hand Oil Cask if you can procure them in whole or in part & get them freighted here so that they shall not cost more than from 90 £ to 100 £ per bbl delivered at Nantucket I should like to have them please to let me know what I do of May fine salt will bring at N.Y. Wm Coffin

13<sup>th</sup> wrote them again directing them to send me 200 & one hundred note & to have the Wine recharged when paid

McFoy Hall & Thatchor

Postmarked Apr 11<sup>th</sup> 1816

41

Gentlemen

Will you please to procure & send  
me 8 pieces of first or good second quality Barnia  
Dish on a credit of 90 days, in doing which you will  
oblige your Ob<sup>r</sup> Servt

Eph<sup>r</sup> Coffin

Fus: R Parkham

Ans: Apr 11 1816

Sir May these find you well, as they leave all  
branches of our family at this time, except Betsy, who is quite unwell &  
has been so for some months, & it is a little doubtful whether she will ever  
be any better, her sickness at present does not appear to be a decline but  
our fears are that it may terminate in that.

I have not heard anything from you for some time I hope  
you have business that is promising I should like to hear what the  
standing of Allons debt to the Estate is, & what the prospects are for recover-  
ing the same at any time & at what time, what the balance was that Jacob  
acknowledged to have in his hands & whether you have obtained it.

I wish to get your opinion, what is best to be done as respects Thomas.  
the School that he has been in, having ceased he has for about two weeks  
been out of any school, & that is all the time he has been idle since you left  
here, he seems to have an inclination to learn some Mechanical branch, if he is  
to do that, it is about time to begin, he is rather small of age & not very robust,  
& my opinion is that he must not undertake to learn any trade that requires  
strong bodily powers, we have very few Mechanics in this place that are workmen  
in any branch that Thomas appears best calculated for? cannot you find a place  
for him in N. Y. & take him somewhat under your care? he seems to have an incli-  
nation to go there; he has been so long in school that it has become a dull thing  
to him now, however he will now go into an other school & go over his Arithmetic  
again, in which he has been principally engaged for the year past.

Business is very dull & . . . .

JPL

Bar Harbor Apr 15 1810

W<sup>m</sup> Barker & Hopkins Guest

Years, covering two hundred  
dollars, Treasurer noted came duly to hand I notice  
what you observe respecting old cork, hope you may be  
able to procure some, provided they can be shipped here  
within one month from this date after that time I shall not  
want them, I have shipped to you by Capt Gifford for the Army  
one half pipe Madura wine which you will please despatch

W.C. Coffin

May 29<sup>th</sup> 1810

W<sup>m</sup> Hall & Thatches

Bethelmen

Your esteemed favour of the  
13<sup>th</sup> Inst came duly to hand I acknowledge your goodness, in adding  
my son agreeable to your statement of 16<sup>th</sup> last am sorry that  
I cannot remit you the whole at this time, I must make it up  
to you some other time, my son will hand \$20 specie dollars  
which you will pass to my credit I have engaged for Mess<sup>rs</sup>  
Hall & Thatches a few quintals of Scarcoset fish and have  
the promise that they shall be of the very best quality  
as soon as they are weighed out to me I will forward them

I am respectfully

Yours

W.C. Coffin

No 87 South St.

May 29 1810

Mr Geo: R Pinckham I this day received your favour of the  
20<sup>th</sup> Inst & notice the contents, I would in the first instance, call your  
attention to a letter of mine wrote some time last month which you  
will not probably receive before you receive this, as it is now on  
board of Gifford & has been to New York & returned.

To answer <sup>to</sup> your last letter, I would as respects the  
money in the hands of the Mess<sup>rs</sup> Allen's <sup>that</sup> I shall forward the  
Fate by same safe hand to you, perhaps by Geo: H Coffin  
as I find he is now on the Island. I shall subjoin the act

as it now stands on my books with the Mrs<sup>m</sup> Allen's. & at the same time I have to request you to state, how the stock in the Mechanics bank stands, what dividends have been paid, with such further particulars as will enable me to state & make an equal dividend between you and Thomas.

The Stock in the Standard Bank in the Union J.  
Co. the Marine Insurance Co. the New Bedford Insurance Co  
& the money loaned to White on real <sup>Estate</sup> security stands equally between  
you & Thomas, and except I have an exact account of how  
the Stock in the Mechanics Bank stands, the balance due from  
Mr Allen & sons & the balance which Mr J. Barker observed  
he had in his hand, it will be impossible for me to adjust  
the accounts of the Estate, which I very much wish to do, and  
have to request your attention to the same.

As respects the Note which I shall forward  
the Principle & Interest will amount to nearly three thousand  
and dollars one half of which, after you have received it  
I shall wish to draw for, that <sup>it</sup> may be applied to the  
credit of your brother Thomas, until a complete settlement  
of the debts shall take place -

Our family are all well except Betsy &  
we do not despair of her recovery altho she has been sick this 7  
months. The family all join me in love to you

Your affectionate wife W Coffin

If I wish you to answer this & the other letter alluded to —

1809	Naamiah Allen & son in debt with Lydia Parkman	On
May 27 A.D. 1809	To Note of hand dated 27 April 1809 — 2000.	By draft in favour of J. J. 500..
		" " A. G. 500..
1810	" Balance due from Act. 2550.38	30 shares in the Mechanics
March 27	a bill of hand —	Bank } 750..
1810	Dividends on bank	bill of hand — 150.52
	Shares —	sundry drafts D. Wood,
	Interest on Notes —	J. Gardner & A. Delano } 500..

W<sup>m</sup> Lovins Jr.July 5<sup>th</sup> 1816

Sir Your favour of the 20<sup>th</sup> of May last past, came duly to hand, it did not require an answer, without it might be to reciprocate your offer of friendly service at all times, I have no doubt I command yours within the bounds of reason, beyond which I hope never to be under the necessity of calling on any friend. If my "advice or exertions" relative to some arrangements you wished at that time to make, tended in any manner to accomplish what you wished I feel happy that I timely interposed, it was with pure motives of friendship to you & Capt Baxter. Your father Swain called on me two days past & asked my assistance, further to assist in finishing the arrangement entered into between yourself, Capt D. Baxter, & the Pacific Bank, he handed me all the papers, & shew me your letter on the subject. As I suspect the Pacific Bank they took the receipt, examined the protest, were satisfied the contingency had happened, on which they were to transfer the Stock in question to you. However the Bank treated with Capt Baxter & found him perfectly agreeable to it, the transfer & power are duly executed & I have received the Certificate of the Stock, shall now hand the whole to your father Swain.

As respects the order & letter, which you wished Capt Baxter to sign I have not mentioned the subject to him, in consequence of the postscript to your letter, in which you say "It will be best to enquire of Capt Baxter, whether he has transferred any of the Rotch debt to others before the old order is given up, for if he has given any person power to collect, except in his own account, it had better be kept."

I treating with Capt Baxter I don't find that he has transferred any of the debt but his (I call Rotchey Creditors in this place) has imposed Capt Paul Pear of London & another person whose name I don't recollect to appear for them, to receive & settle with Thos Dickerson the assignee of B. Rotch. Mr Dickerson through Wm Rotch Junr of N.B. has noticed the creditors in this country of his being appointed & accepted the appointment of assignee, he himself was one of the greatest Creditors in England, and to prevent the Bankruptcy of Rotch, assumed most of the other debts in England, this Mr Dickerson observed he did for the honour of the Rotch family, and it will appear naturally for the benefit of the creditors in this country, the creditors will all be on the same footing even Mr Dickerson (who I observed before as one of the largest Creditors) had property secured to him (previous to his becoming an assignee).

sufficient to have paid his whole debt, disdained taking any advantage & agreed to come in a common creditor, and trust to the honour of the family in this country to make good, the deficiency if any there should be in such debts as he was under the necessity of assuming to prevent Mr Rotch from being declared a Bankrupt, & Rotch as it is said delivered up everything even his private plate, and is to, or has accepted the offer of a friend of his in London to live in his family, and I understand that some of the Rotch family in this country, have sent Mr Sam'l Williams of London to purchase certain articles of furniture & plate at their expence for the use of Mr B. R. Having fully given you, all that I have obtained from Capt' Baxter, Gardner, Grinn, & West, respecting Rotch's business, you will now consider whether the old order would not answer better than one of a new date if you should prefer something more formal, I think you had better write Capt' Baxter on the subject, & whatever you think I can be of any service you will ~~feel~~ freely command

Yours de ~~affectionately~~

Miss Hall & Thatcher

July 26 1816

Gentlemen

I shall enclose in this over hundred Dollars, which you will pass to my credit, or so much of that am as may remain after deducting the sum<sup>m</sup> that may be on the money inclosed. I know I owe you more, but for that you must wait a further time, except you draw on me for the balance, if you do it shall be paid at sight.

I have shipped to you by Capt' Hayden 20 bushels of fish contg 5 quintals cost & trucked \$30 20/100. for size they are not what I could wish, but they were just what I could get, if you or your friends should want more I could furnish 3 or 4 quintals, but I could not warrant them to be any better but full as good

I am etc Mr Coffin

P.S. since writing the above I have received  
I shall enclose (instead of money) a draft on  
Mr Loveling Jr for \$100. that will be paid  
in Boston money, on which there will be no  
discount

Mr<sup>r</sup> Hall & Thatchr

Augt 17 1816

Gentlemen I have shipped to  
you for Sloap Fair American Capt Thacher 20 hund<sup>r</sup>s  
of Brisk containing 5 quintals Value \$30<sup>00</sup>/100 which you  
will pay to my credit Yours Eppie Coffin

Mr<sup>r</sup> Hall & Thatchr

Gentlemen

Nantucket Sept 24 1816

Included is Mr Sim<sup>r</sup> Gardner  
draft on you for \$ 423. you will please to advance  
to my son over eighty dollars & pay the balance to my  
Credit. I expect to be in Boston myself in about  
two months I will then settle over and to that date

Yours Eppie Coffin

Leafy

Nantucket Sept 19 1816

Credit for 423 doll

Ten days after sight of this my only of  
exchange of this tenor & date pay to Eppie Coffin or order  
the sum of four hundred & twenty three dollars for value  
received & place the same to credit of your Post Card

Simon Gardner

Mr<sup>r</sup> Hall & Thatchr

Boston

Mr<sup>r</sup> W Lewis Jr

Nantucket Oct 4<sup>th</sup> 1816

Gent<sup>r</sup> I have an opportunity to sell a  
binacle Illuminator to make it compleat an in want  
of the double reflector Glass will you please to put one  
on board the Sloap by command for Nantucket  
I am d<sup>r</sup>d Eppie Coffin

Mrs' Barker & Hopkins  
Wm'l N.Y.

Nantucket Oct 20 1816

47

Gentlemen

The latest advice I have had from you respecting the 2 & a pipe of Wine shipped you last spring was your favour of the 26 June. You then observed that one pipe remained on hand, & "that you were in hopes soon to dispose of that" I should have waited your further advice without troubling you, if in serious necessity did not urge the measure, but I have a sum of money to make up which becomes due at the custom house (for duties) in about 20 days from this time & whether you are in cash or not for my acct, You will particularly oblige me by advancing about \$300 in treasury notes, which you will please remit by Mail or otherwise, for which favour you will have the grateful acknowledgments of your Ob't Servt  
*Wm Coffin*

P.S. In addition to the above request  
will you have the goodness to ship me  
by some of our Packets two bbls. good  
Floor for my family use W.C.

Sam'l Parkman Esq

OCT 28 1816

Sir Your favour of the 22<sup>d</sup> Inst came duly to hand, As respects the statement made you by Capt Chan I have not the means of knowing certainly, still I believe it to be substantially correct, that they hold considerable real estate in certain, on which they would suffer loss, were it sold any time within one year from this date, as to the debts due on which the security were personal (if any there be) I should certainly think them bad, as they undoubtedly transferred the good ones to their new established Bank, (in which you & Mr Coolidge ought to have been interested & would have had justice done) has ever taken up the business where it now stands, it is my opinion the offer made you by Chan, is the full value, I am not, best was I interested I certainly should take up with his offer as to the other part of your enquiry respecting the Value of Insurance thereon that have been

connected with the old Bank I should say they are not worth exceeding thirty five dollars & I very much doubt whether they would fetch that at this time I have a few shares in it & would readily sell at that price — I am Dr Wm Coffin

No 8<sup>th</sup> 1816

Donald Miller Esq

Sir Shubael Coffin called on me this day to know if I held the note given to the Fidelity Co by or for Barnard Barker I told him I did not, but then observed if I would send for the note he would pay the sum it which he allowed was \$125, I then asked if there was not interest to be paid, if I understood him right, he said that was all he was allowed, or could pay agreeable to a description of cost.

I expect to be in Boston in about two weeks from this date if you forward the note to me soon & are satisfied with the offer he has made it is probable I can remove that amt. & pay it to you in Boston

Yours Wm Coffin

Boston July 7 1816

Mrs Barker & Hopkins

Gentlemen

I rec'd your favour of the 16 Avo 1816 by which I learn that only one pipe of the Wine was sold from your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> June I was led to believe that you had made sale of the half pipe as you observed "one pipe of your wine remains on hand" you have permitted me to draw on you for one hundred & fifty Dollars, you will oblige me if you will remit that sum to Mrs Draper & Staywood Merchants Boston for Acct of Thornton & Coffin of Newmarket I wish just that sum to be remitted & if any premium is paid you will debit me for it

Yours Wm Coffin

Wm Lovering Jr

Amherst March 1<sup>st</sup> 1818

Sir I wrote you on the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst for my son Wm requesting you to advance him some money say seventy Dollars or there abouts At the same time I informed you that I should make you a shipment of Candles agreeably to which I have shipped you four Fair American 36 box, for invoice enclosed, you will make sale of the same, the sooner the better as they are to close an unbroken frost with U.S. 8° the weather has been very pleasant for a few days past, which gives a different aspect to our Town which has been gloomy for about 6 weeks, — no arrivals, little money & large call for charitable purposes, Our Soup house is still in operation It was established free from party, if it can be kept so it will be a great blessing to the poor, but if our leading democrats should endeavour to make it a political thing at the approaching elections which I very much fear they will stop one of the very best establishments in my opinion that was ever set on foot in this Town & what ought to be kept up as long as we have the poor with us & that will be for ever.

The Eagle Meadow is at the Bar I have heard nothing from Mrs Farther than she is from Fayal & has brought home some wicked Sailors

Yours & Yours



May 13<sup>rd</sup> 1818

Mr Wm P Hooper

Sir I this day rec'd a letter from Capt Shattley dated the 5<sup>th</sup> in answer to one I wrote him some little time past. he informs me the latter agreed to have made for me 30 mifit quality of shingles & referred me to you for any lumber that I may want he observes that it is uncertain when he may come this way himself & said he would ship them by Capt Lovell the next trip. I am attorney & building & wish to have 2 sticks of pine timber 36 f. 6 by 7 4 do 36 f. 6 by 7 16 do 22 f. 5 by 7 4 do 38-6" 6. & 12 M. good Clapboard. if any opportunity should offer of shipping the Shingles timber & Clapboard before Capt Lovell should return I should wish you to improve it as my work would now be going

look forward to leave

you

Mr. Winslow Lewis & Co Apr 29 1817

Gentlemen

From the hand of Mr  
Geo: T Barker you will receive this, & believe pay  
you \$100. which I have charged to your ac't. some few  
of your dark lights, I still have on hand unsold.

However that there may be no want of them I think  
it would be well for you to send half a dozen of each  
size. I have no binocular Illuminators now on  
hand. We have several new ships now building some  
of which you will no doubt want them, I have engaged  
one of you will please send 4 or 5. Yours etc

Will you have the goodness to send a few of Mr. Barker's  
Electric valve pump box's it is the wish of some  
gentlemen to make trial of them you will send instructions  
if they need any

Mr. Barker & Hopkins

Gent'

Apr 30 1817

As I have received no acct  
of the sales of the pipe & half pipe of Wine (which you infor-  
med me last Winter was on hand) I presume it is unsold  
Should that be the case when you receive this you will please  
I wish you to ship it to me by the first opportunity  
as I am fearfull it will spoil except it is reinforced  
will you please forward my acct at sometime

Yours W

Mr. Barker & Hopkins

May 14 1817

Last your favour of the 12 Inst is at hand annexed to which  
is value of two pipes of Wine you say nothing of the half pipe  
of course it is on hand at least I hope it is & that you  
will ship it to by the first opportunity W

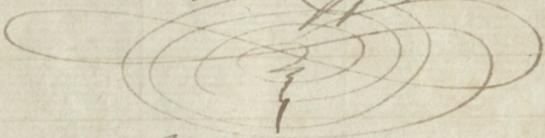
Miss<sup>n</sup> Gray & Jackson  
Southw<sup>n</sup> New York,

Pantucket June 9<sup>th</sup> 1817

Gentlemen

Altho' a stranger I beg you  
to excuse the freedom. I take it now addressing you, it is  
to ask of you to favour me with the act of wine you recently  
purchased of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Barker & Hopkins of New York, the number  
the gauge the wants, in what vessel it was imported of which the black  
mark will give the price & on what credit likewise the date  
when you made the purchase, all of which may perhaps remove  
from me a suspicion a suspicion which rests on my mind at  
this time that I have not been fairly dealt with, I would wish you  
to consider this application as a confidential thing & not men-  
tion the subject to Mess<sup>rs</sup> B & H. for if the account they have rendered  
to me is correct I with pleasure could dispel all doubts your  
compliance with what I request will particularly oblige your  
but a very humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup> Coffin



June 16 1817

Mr Lovering Sir enclosed with this you will receive  
the transport certificate of 122 cask of oil which is deno-  
minated Whale Oil it is about 2/3 Elephant O. but there  
is no distinguishing mark on the cask to know one from  
the other the certificates will agree with the invoice  
annexed as to numbers & gauge Mr James Morris as  
well as several of the owners of the Bonifacius interested  
in the oil the exact proportions I shall forward you  
here after that when sold it may be placed to the credit  
of each person. It is our wish that you make as good  
sales & at as short a time as you can to help out a bad voyage  
you will particularly attend to the needful as respects  
debtors you will observe our number is as high as 150  
but the Fair American could not take it all & intermediate  
numbers were on board the Empress a memo-  
randum of which will be subjoined to W<sup>m</sup> Coffin

Invoice of 122 cask of W. Oil shipped on board  
 the Sloop Fair American R. Russell master  
 consigned to Capt. Lovell for Merchant Boston  
 for account & risk of Wm Caffin & others

No.	Q	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G
1.	111.	23.	13	43.	31	63	30	83.	124	103.	146
2.	113	24.	13	44.	35	64.	27	84.	29	104.	61
3.	115	25.	40	45.	50	65.	30	85.	56	105.	123
4.	58	26.	137	46.	58	66.	31	86.	28	106.	13
5.	55	27.	136	47.	60	67.	61	87.	72	107.	158
6.	55	28.	110	48.	27	68.	59	88.	55	108.	138
7.	29	29.	155	49.	30	69.	54	89.	56	109.	144
8.	27	30.	108	50.	30	70.	49	90.	137	110.	149
9.	61	31.	14	51.	60	71.	54	91.	77	111.	150
10.	55	32.	106	52.	48	72.	57	92.	105	112.	142
11.	48	33.	126	53.	52	73.	55	93.	139	117.	61
12.	143	34.	119	54.	60	74.	64	94.	16	118.	70
13.	148	35.	119	55.	34	75.	55	95.	13	119.	56
14.	30	36.	134	56.	29	76.	128	96.	139	120.	137
15.	28.	37.	137	57.	60	77.	89	97.	123	121.	121
16.	29	38.	121	58.	108	78.	29	98.	116	122.	139
17.	83	39.	57	59.	50	79.	115	99.	146	123.	136.
18.	12	40.	58	60.	61	80.	110	100.	145	124.	147
19.	14	41.	32	61.	28	81.	114	101.	63	125.	146
20.	10	42.	59	62.	33	82.	130	102.	145	126.	143
21.	74.	1794.	943	1341		1784	129.	66			
											130. 67.

Casks shipped by Sloop Empress  
 for account as above

Q. No.

14. 130 115. 136

15. 143 116. 148

16. 155 123. 132

17. 146 128. 131

V 574 V 547

deduct 2 gall on all the  
 large cask 56@29. 112  
 on small do. 74 @ 1. 74 186

2505  
 1784  
 1341  
 943  
 1794  
 1174  
 547  
 574  
 10662  
 Gall. 10.476

Arrived Jan 10 1807

W Lovings Jr I have shipped to you per Sloop Slave  
 American One hundred & twenty two cask Oil by hds  
 I inclose forwarding Invoice transport certificate &c  
 I have now put on board the Empress eight large cask  
 as per Invoice at foot I shall inclose a trans port certi-  
 ficate the oil was all gauged by the custom house gauges  
 & I presume it is correct the custom house allowed two  
 gallons wants on the large cask, & one gallon on the  
 small; that is on all that was under 100 Gall. & the oil  
 was filled up agreeable to that allowance but after  
 standing one day on the wharf the heat swelled it  
 so that it was wood & wood when it went on board -  
 should it shrink down you may either fill it up  
 or take wants as you can agree with the purchaser  
 Yours Wm Clegg

Invoice of eight Cask of Oil per Empress -

144	—	130
15	—	143
113	—	155
114	—	146
115	—	136
116	....	148
127	....	132
128	—	131
		1121
Wants	—	16
		11.05 Gall.

The Oil has been cleaned & dressed in  
 excellent order for shipping

W<sup>m</sup> Loring Jr.

Nantucket June 26 1807

Dear Sir Your favour of the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst for Empress  
came duly to hand, I notice what you say respecting the quantity of Oil  
at your market, It is a natural consequence for purchasers when they see  
large quantities of any particular article daily arriving to hold their hand  
as respects W.O. & G.O, they may think of it like spermaceti oil, that the market  
will be overstocked, & that sales will be forced at any price, but that will not be  
the case, it is an article of exportation to many parts of the world & there is but three  
or four ships to arrive this season, should they be fortunate to find the small  
quantity they will bring can have little or no effect as to glutting the different  
markets.

Altho I was in hopes that you would have effected  
sales of what I shipped you, at a fair price without the additional  
expense of storage &c but as it is now in store, in a good cellar, & has been  
so recently well examined & sand driven as to need no coopersing this  
summer, I do not feel anxious about forcing a sale, I have no doubt  
the price two or three months hence will pay for storage &c &c  
however if 47 @ 80¢ could be obtained within a month at least or short  
& I don't think it would be well to stand that. I put the utmost  
confidence in you doing the best for the concern according to your  
judgement, You will constantly keep in view the debtors which  
is an object to attend to,

Mr Sim<sup>n</sup> Eldridge Falmouth

July 24<sup>th</sup> 1817

Sir Your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst directed to  
to Elisha Starbuck came duly to hand, The owners of the Pernal  
notice what you say respecting the Voyage & vessel & as you observe  
the Fish are ready to weigh off they would like to have their part shipped  
now, they have conversed with two or three Captains of wood coasters  
& offered them 10¢ per quintal to bring them on they asked more but  
perhaps one or other of them may agree to take up with the offer made  
if they do they will have an order to receive them if no order is produced  
to you, you will please to ship them by any vessel on that will bring them  
at that freight.

Your W<sup>m</sup> Coffin

57

P.S. the owners do not want to buy fish at this time  
you observe the Schooner often she comes in this trip will pro-  
ceed to the eastward I wish you to notice Capt Eldridge that  
he must not go into a port in N.E. except it is a case of the utmost  
necessity if he does he will be sent to Halifax.

Wm. Lovings

Bant July 28 1817

I should have sent the Brig Bonif to Boston to  
load with Lumber, but an opportunity offered of getting a load here near-  
ly at the Boston price she will commence loading to morrow & will  
proceed first to Fayal, if she does not sell there will proceed to Teneriff  
& perhaps the Cape de Verde (Robt Swain goes in her) in addition to lumber  
I shall put on board some whale oil & tallow, I wish you to ship me  
by the first vessel that leaves Boston for New Bedford 2 bbls Navy M-  
Pork 2 do No 1 but 2 do No 2 do. it is for the Bonif she will  
be ready for sea all this week

The ship Lydia was the last whale ship that arrived  
here she brought in 6 or 700 bbls whale oil we shall have no more  
of that article this season except the ships round Cape Horn  
should take a little to fill them up, which is some times the  
case will you be so good as to forward the inclosed  
to my son Wm

W.C.

Aug 5 1817

Mr P. Fenney Sir Mr E Starbuck has rec'd a letter informing  
him that the Schooner Parnal is in on her second trip & the owners  
are again asked if they want the fish. It was an understood  
business with Capt Eldridge & the owners that they were to have  
their part as soon as got to wimp off. & when they were informed  
that the fish were ready for delivery they contracted with Capt  
Patch to bring them, after which they were informed the fish  
were all sent to Market why that should have taken place  
may be better explained how after the owners would like to  
have the whole of their share & if more than their part they will  
account for them you will please to ship them as soon as they  
are sufficiently dried to wimp off

W.C.

Sand  
drove

This term  
used on p -  
55, is found  
in another of  
the letters.

It may mean  
filtered through  
Sand to clarify  
it, but it is  
not any dic-  
tionary at my  
Command,

and I must  
Say the same  
of "wood and  
wood" on  
p-55-

Wood and wood  
and sand drove

Union St  
City

50  
Mr Jacob Barker

Nantucket Decr 29 1817

Sir In the winter 1815 Mr W. C. Barker showed me a letter he had just received from you in which you requested him to inform me that you had a small balance in your hands belonging to the Estate of Mrs Penikham, I then gave Mr W.C. Barker an order on you for the amt. whatever that might be, I have heard nothing further on the business since that time will you please to inform me what the amt was & where it now is in so doing you will oblige your obt servt Wm Coffin

from the back back look for the beginning of this letter Wm R Hooper

If I had the timber I shall want 5 or 6 m<sup>s</sup> of seasoned boards if they can be provided. There is considerable more repairing & building this season than is usual at Nantucket & at present lumber of the different kinds in demand, you will please forward your bill of lumber & if you wish it paid in Boston I can order it paid to whoever you may name or remit it as you may direct.

This letter was dated May 13 1818.

Wm Coffin

In stead of the timber sent for the list of which was attached

I directed	2	stocks	36 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ft	4" x 8" Ia
6	do	36	"	" "
5	do	38	"	" "
16	"	23	"	8 by 10 Ia.

to the boards Merchantable & 2 ft floor boards spruce.

Wm R Hooper

June 15<sup>th</sup> 1818

Sir Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst came duly to hand previous to which Capt Daddack had arrived here with the timber & shingles agreeably to your last. wish you to procure the Clap board if you can I send them by the first opportunity Merchant boards I have supplied myself with shall make out without any clear boards but wish you to procure two ft. yellow pine floor board clear of sap & large knots & send them by the first vessel for this place subjoined is an order on Mr Loring for \$115 48/100 the foot of your bill. I am Sir your obt servt

Wm Coffin

116. 48/200

## Copy of order

Pay to the order of Wm P Hooper of Saaco \$115 47/100 & without further advice charge the same to your Ac't now! Wm Coffin

I shall be in Boston the latter part of this week & shall be detained there about 10 days you'll please direct a letter to me to the care of Mr Lovering & let me know whether you procure the Clapboards & flooring & send me a bill of the other things Wm C

You fearfull that the burning will be over done, however there is great allowance to be made for the fears of men of my age —

You complain of the stagnation of business in Boston & the demand for money those complaints are pretty general in commercial Cities the world over & no doubt are true at times, business has its cold & floors altho' not so regular as our trades — Spring has now opened at which time you anticipated something more favorable, may your anticipation be realized.

Since I wrote you Mr Lovering has lost a tendon in either, it was a circum stance that waits to be looked for & yet rather sudden when it happened, I sympathize with you & she in the loss. I have been informed that Mrs Lovering was not in good health, but it was not made known to me what her complaints were I hope they are not dangerous —

In this letter I shall inclose you one hundred & fifty dollars which you will please pay to my Cr. it is in Boston money the discount on which as well as interest on the advances made you must make me deduction for Wm Coffin

— was ready to answer hundred m<sup>r</sup> the note signed by — you I did not notice the date of it, I never looked at it since until this day I now find it to be her note given in the life time of Mr Nichols. It will be a law full demand on his Estate, but not so against Mrs Nichols Estate therefore as Executor to the latter Estate I must reject paying it. shall hand it again to Capt Matthews from whom I received it. The Probate Court for this County sets the first week next month (I don't now recollect day) I shall at that Court exhibit my account & probably make a final settlement & be discharged from all demands, not exhibited before or at that time. If you feel aggrieved at my refusal to pay the note you have a right then to appear, by yourself or attorney & state your demand which will be adjudged on. I feel sorry that I had not noticed the date when

Capt<sup>n</sup> Gilbert & Dean

Nantucket Augt 21 1818

Gent<sup>m</sup> Indlosed is thirty three Dollars you

will please forward me four quarter Tickets in the Plymouth  
Beach Lottery of different numbers

Wm Coffin



Nantucket Sept 21 1818

Brother Henry

On my arrival at Nantucket last Friday  
from it leaves back book for the beginning  
of this letter Wm R Hooper

If I had the timber I shall want 5 or 6 m<sup>s</sup> of seasoned boards  
if they can be procured. There is considerable more repairing & building  
this season than is usual at Nantucket & at present lumber of the  
different kinds in demand, you will please forward your bill of the lumber &  
if you wish it paid in Boston I can order it paid to whoever  
you may name or remit it as you may direct your

This letter was dated May 13 1818.

Wm Coffin

Instead of the timber sent for the list of which was attached

I directed 2 stacks 36<sup>ft</sup> 4<sup>"</sup> x 8<sup>"</sup> I n

6 do. 36 " " "

5 do 38 " " "

16 " 23 " 8 by 10 do.

6 M<sup>s</sup> board Merchantable & 2 ft<sup>2</sup> floor boards pine.

Wm R Hooper

June 15<sup>th</sup> 1818

Sir Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst came duly to hand  
previous to which Capt Daddack had arrived here with the  
timber & shingles agreeably to your last. wish you to procure the  
Clap boards if you can & send them by the first opportunity Merchant  
board I have supplied myself with shall make out without  
any clear boards but wish you to procure two M<sup>s</sup> Yards pine  
floor board clear of sap & large knots & send them by the first  
Vessel for this place subjoined is an order on Mr Lovering for  
for \$115 48/100 the foot of your bill. I am Sir your ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Wm Coffin

Bantucket Apr 22 1819

Wm Lovering Jr

Dear Sir As far as I can perceive of the 2<sup>d</sup> letter by my son I recd. I do not see the contents, As respects your Act & I presume it to be correct, & have to acknowledge your goodness in making the advances, I should have been glad if you could have made it convenient to have drawn on me for the amount so advanced, but it is probably with you as it is with most of the commission Merchants doing business for New Bedford, in advance for their friends the rage for buying, building ships in the whaling business has been such that every resource has been put in requisition & I am fearfull that the business will be over done, however there is great allowance to be made for the fears of men of my age —

You complain of the stagnation of business in Boston & the demand for money, those complaints are pretty general in commercial Cities the world over & no doubt are true at times, business has its ebb & flow altho not so regular as our tides — Spring has now opened at which time you anticipated something more favorable, may your anticipations be realized.

Since I wrote you Mrs Lovering has lost a tendon in other, it was a common stroke that waits to be looked for Lyt rather sudden when it happened, I sympathize with you & she in the loss I have been informed that Mrs Lovering was not in good health, but it was not made known to me what her complaints were I hope they are not dangerous —

In this letter I shall inclose you one hundred & fifty dollars which you will please pass to my C<sup>r</sup>. it is in New Bedford money the discount on which as well as interest on the advances made you must make me deduction for

W<sup>r</sup> Coffin

— we recd on March 25<sup>th</sup> hundred m<sup>o</sup> the note signed by you I did not notice the date of it, I never looked at it since sent it this day I now find it to be her note given in the life time of Mr Nichols. It will be a lawfull demand on his Estate, but not so against Mrs Nichols Estate therefore as Executor to the latter Estate I must reject paying it. shall hand it again to Capt Matthews from whom I received it. The Probate Court for this County sits the first week next month (I dont now recollect day) I shall at that Court exhibit my accounts & probably make a final settlement & be discharged from all demands not exhibited before or at that time If you feel aggrieved at my refusal to pay the note you have a right then to appear, by yourself or attorney & state your claim which will be adjudged on. I feel sorry that I had not noticed the date when

10  
Mess<sup>r</sup> Birney & Ludlow

Waukechit May 20<sup>th</sup> 1819

Gent: Mr. Marilow Lewis has noticed me that he has resigned the agency for the Hydraulic Machine Co I requested me to forward a statement of cost of Sales of the Box's consigned to me, & an account of those now on hand here follows a list of Box's on hand in which I shall include hand pumps which I suppose belong to the same concern altho not mentioned in Mr. Lewis Letter

the list of 23 p<sup>t</sup> Box's  
& 4 hand pump's am't \$320

There does not appear to be any demand for those Box's at this time I have only sold two pair Box's & one hand pump as you will observe by the list annexed

W C.

Sales 1 hand pump 14 2 p<sup>t</sup> Com: Box's @ 14 - 42  
deduct

Freight &c. Com: 210 advertising 1.50 - 4.60  
37.40

June 2<sup>d</sup> 1819 —

Wm Coffin Jr. My son

Yours favour of 21<sup>st</sup> May inclosing several bills came duly to hand, enclosed in one hundred & fifty dollars which is more than sufficient to pay said bills via Mr. Cunningham, & C. Co. which is accepted No. Lorings which is proper to inclose to you today

In yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst' came duly to hand previous to which Capt Daddack had arrived here with the timber & shingles agreeably to your last. wish you to procure the Clap board if you can & send them by the first opportunity. Much board I have supplied my self with shall make out without any clear board but wish you to procure two 4 ft. Gables some floor board clear of sap & large knots & send them by the first Vessel for this place subjoined is an order on W<sup>m</sup> Loring Jno for \$115 48/100 the rest of your bill. I am in your best servt

Wm Coffin

Nantucket Augt 30<sup>th</sup> 1819 63

Elijah Swift

Dear Sir Your favour of the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst.

I this day received, inclosed is a note payable at the Pacific Bank for one thousand you will please to forward the amount in check on the Bank, or other money Nantucket in preference of any except Boston which is equal

As respects Stock I have made enquiry & find I can get 10 shares at 105<sup>2</sup> dividend on or at 102 dividend off. the next dividend will be declared on the first Monday of October & will not exceed 4<sup>1/2</sup> p<sup>c</sup> & will fall short of three 3<sup>1/2</sup> if either of them terms will do. Please to let me know by return on packet

Your affec son

With this forwarded my Note for 1000 Dall dated 1<sup>st</sup> Sept payable in 9 months.

Mrs Clarissa Hodge

Nantucket Oct 21 1819

Madam I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 15<sup>th</sup> Inst. by which I find that your late husband's Estate has been settled & dividend made. Having neglected to exhibit my demand in due season to the Commissioners, it is perfectly just that I should pocket the loss of whatever would have been my dividend had I have exhibited it in time.

When Capt Matthews handed me the note signed by Desire Nichols payable to you I did not notice the date of it, & never looked at it since until this day I now find it to be his note given in the life time of Mr Nichols. It will be a lawfull demand on his Estate, but not so against Mrs Nichols Estate therefore as executor to the latter Estate I must refuse paying it. shall hand it again to Capt Matthews from whom I received it. The Probate Court for this County sits the first week next month (I don't now recollect day) I shall at that Court exhibit my account & probably make a final settlement & be discharged from all demand, not exhibited before or at that time. If you feel aggrieved at my refusal to pay the note you have a right then to appear, by yourself or attorney & state your demand which will be adjudged on. I feel sorry that I had not noticed the date when

20

when I received the note, that I might have earlier given you notice  
of my rejecting the payment, but as it is you made no time to make  
your demand in legal form. If you think my division is correct.

I have no doubt your demand is just against the Estate of  
Mrs Nichols & you have time to make it there as the Estate is not  
settled. both Estates are solvent

your affec son

Oct 28<sup>th</sup> 1819

Mr Freeman & Son Sir In behalf of my daughter Lucy I now address  
you, she acknowledge the receipt of your returned favour of the 7<sup>th</sup> Augt ult.  
which announced the return of Brig Mary & was a confirmation of the loss  
of her husband Capt S. T Coffin to whom you referred her recovery  
particular as he received it off the masts of the Mary. as respects the effects of  
Capt Swain she fully & perfectly satisfied that every attention was paid to them  
& that every article on board the Mary belonging to him was faithfully  
& truly accounted for You observed that there were sometimes  
remaining open between Capt Swain & the owners of the Mary that there  
might be some small matter due him on them & that a few days  
pay were due, be it what it may it would be gratefully received  
by her this goes by Capt Brig - Barnard of Sloop New Port of  
who will receive what ever may be due, & his receipt shall be  
a discharge to the owners of the Mary my daughter joins me  
in respects to you

Yours Oct Nov<sup>th</sup>

McCaffin

Copy  
Bartucket Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 1820

\$ 27.10. Value received please to pay to the order of Wm  
Coffin twenty seven Dollars 10/100 & please the same to act  
of your Oct Servt  
to Wm Bladjet Esq<sup>r</sup> Signed by Aaron Mitchell

To the Ready of the Providence M. F. J. C<sup>o</sup>

We demand for you will please acknowledge the receipt  
of the above & destroy the order on Capt Moore. I  
acknowledge the receipt of the Policies  
Recd the above in the P. O. Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 1820 Wm Coffin

Montauk Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 1820

25

Benj. Mitchell. Washington Dutch County

Your favour of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult came to hand a few days past contents noticed. as respects your shares in the U. S. C. I believe they will readily sell for cash at this time at per say \$100 per share & perhaps a little better than that, though the last sale a few days past was at par. I thought best not to offer your shares until I heard from you again, as there is little but they will hold good, except a Spanish War & there is no danger of that for two months to come.

We made a dividend in our office of 8 p<sup>t</sup> last month. your part say \$160 I p<sup>t</sup> to Abbott Mitchell he observed he could remit it to you by way of a draft on N.Y which I supposed would best suit your purpose.

The Marine D. C. you know has for some time ceased existing in order to wind up their business, they have recently made a dividend of 20% on a share of their stock. & it is supposed they will wind up in the course of this year & pay about 30 Dole more on a share. Since your divi: \$40 Dole have p<sup>t</sup> to Mark Coffin your bill of 36 Dole. I took your Act receipted.

In conversation with Paul L. Christopher as respects the Estate of your Father it seems their wish that things should remain as they are for the present year. mother is a feeble old woman, & according to the common course of things is not long for this world, who is gradually wearing away but may live a few years longer, I understand an arrangement has been made with James Horne I believe satisfactory to all parties & your sister now lives with your mother as it is her wish that she should remain with her as long as she lives, they have a very carefull woman to take care of them. Your connections as far as comes to my knowledge are generally well. Present news from our fleet round Cape Horn is not flattering as it has been. Whales are evidently scarcer, & it takes our ships longer to load, the two last arrivals via the Britonian & Thomas after a 30 month voyage returned not quite full & the vessels now sailing & some that have sailed have it in contemplation to seek Whales on new coasts.

So far we have had what may be termed a hard winter altho we have not had the harbour closed long at a time. On the 11<sup>th</sup> ult we had the greatest Snow & Ice storm that was ever experienced by the oldest person now living in this town.

A sad accident happened if accident it may be termed a few days past A man by the name of Jake Cushman killed a man by the name of Bernard Grahame, they were neither of them native born, but both residents the former had a wife & large family of children was in the best standing time he is now confined in jail on the charge of Man Slaying, the

Man who was killed was a Cooper & served his time with John Marbot.  
His skull was fractured by a stroke with a stick of wood & died in about  
36 hours. Such things do not often happen in this town of course  
causes great excitement. I have nothing further to communicate  
only to inform you myself & mine are well may this find you & yours  
the same.

Yours W Coffin

Since writing the a foregoing I have so far altered my mind  
that I have contracted for the sale of ten of your shares at par  
for Cash should you acquiesce with what I have done I will  
place the money if possible where you may direct it or if the  
sale is not perfectly agreeable I will replace to you as many  
more shares.

W Coffin

Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 1820

No 2 Swift - Hallowell

Dear Sir I have contracted for ten  
shares in the Insurance Stock. You will please forward  
the note & I will forward the certificates as you have directed  
half for you & half for your Brother. I will keep the Iron  
Doors until it is determined whether you obtain a Charter  
or not as they will come so cheap to you that I know you  
will want them. I have had them weighed there is 1200  
weight.

Wm Coffin

for Richardson

Feb 29<sup>th</sup> 1820

Dr Sir yours undated of the 2<sup>nd</sup> m<sup>r</sup> 20 this day I recd<sup>d</sup>  
respecting the demand made by P. G. on your office his letter to you is however  
& a little impertinent & from the spirit of it, I should be led to think he intended  
to commence a suit against you or fighten you into an offer of compromise  
To answer your inquiries I would observe that the actions brought  
against our Office & that of the N. M. I. C. was on Policies on the Ship &  
appertaining & we set up as defences mis conduct in the Capt & under  
wotthy nys of the Vessel judgment went against us. The F. S. M. I. C<sup>o</sup>  
& N. M. I. C. were sued on Policies for 25,000 Dollars each on cargo. That two  
policies were of even date & were for the voyage to & from, one of

which case went to the jury at the S. C. Boston the jury after being out a considerable time returned not agreed & both cases were laid over, for the next term after which the two offices authorized their Atty B. Gorham to settle by a compromise which he did & paid Mr G. 25,000 Dollars for which and he discharged both Parties among the papers produced under trial was Mr Cushing (the Counsel at Canton). But Capt. H. took charge of the ship after the death of Capt. Cary loaded the ship with value of what cargo he found & sold, & with the Cash say 60,000 thousand Dollars made her debtor to charges that were then unpaid, & took up a note given by Whitney which he found Cary had instructions to pay, to an Merchant a Chinese Merchant for \$30,000. the balance of funds then left was about 34,000 Dollars which he laid out & ship that and principally in Black Tea in the Room for trial of the owners of the Room when she left Canton & that was all the cargo that belonged to the owners of the Room when she left Canton. there was not a shadow of proof of any loss that occurred at Canton to which no documents could be had to act for. It is true the expenses of the ship were great & the Capt while at Canton was at the expense of from 5 to 10 Dollars per day as is evidence produced on the trial. In round numbers I should say the cargo lost in Canton (and does) amounted to \$15,000 since \$100,000.      \$15.000

Cary paid on net which he gave the voyage before 25.000

Cushing's P <sup>t</sup> Whitney note	30.000
---------------------------------------	--------

Tea shipped by Cushing	34.000
------------------------	--------

Loss on tea & expenses	26.000
------------------------	--------

The above may not be perfectly correct by nearly 10. -

In addition to the foregoing Insurance O.G had insured on Cary in Boston (out & in) at two offices I don't now recollect their names \$20,000 in each those two offices lost actions for prem. & O.G lost action for loss they were tried at the last S. C. in Boston, he attended the Court & since her return home I have been informed, one case only was tried which went against him which it was I don't know, & what became of the others I know not, but from the silence of Mr Gardner Whiffles, it appears not favorable to him -

Inquiry of the Room cargo. Cushing at Capt. L letters from him to Mr G with many other papers were before the S. C. in the trial had with Wm M D G & N. E. D. Co. they are or ought to be on the files of the Clerk of the S. C. Boston to them & to B. Gorham his attorney who acted as their Atty & Agent, I refer you

Wm C. Parker

as far as copies of 1814  
Look back for the letters to the  
P.M.I.C.

March 29<sup>th</sup> 1820

Benj Mitchell

In Your favour of the 28<sup>th</sup> of 2 m<sup>o</sup> came to hand some  
time past, I have delayed until this answering it having been in hopes that I  
could forward you an order or a bill on N.Y. for the \$1000, I have tried every man that  
I thought likely but as yet have not been able to get accomodated that way, the truth  
is, the most of our Merchants trading that way want their whole credit stopped here  
in produce, which brings cash balances against us, could you have orders to draw the  
money in Boston would that answer you, or if you could draw & negotiate a bill on me  
it will be paid at sight, to remit the money by Mail I dont think however I wait your  
further orders & in the interim shall be on the look out to procure a draft on N.Y. I have  
not as yet made any proposals as respects selling out your remainder in your fathers Estate  
I never the less keep it in mind, as respects your interest in the N.S. wharf it will hardly  
fetch anything at this time perhaps it may at some future day, as I am intrusted my  
to the amount of several shares I shall keep a good look out for a purchase.  
Mr Cushman has been tried in Boston the Jury could not agree, & his trial is again pos-  
-poned to No<sup>o</sup> next he was indicted for Manslaughter, which is the extent he can  
be found guilty of.

Anne Coffin

If your connutions are as well as usual -

April 13<sup>th</sup> 1820

Benj Mitchell

My friend I have this day forwarded by  
our mutual friend Albert Gardner, one thousand dollars  
with directions for him to deposit the money with Nathan  
Gumstock subject to your order. by the time you receive this  
in all probability Gumstock will have the money therefore  
you will have nothing more to do than give your order for the  
money. the other ten shares are not yet sold I shall keep  
your instructions in view & give you the earliest notice when  
I meet with a market for them Yours Anne Coffin

P.S I could not procure draft on N.Y. nor N.Y. money  
I therefore forwarded N Port R Island money which I  
am informed is current in N.Y. W.C.

Chap<sup>n</sup> Barney & Ludlow.

May 8<sup>th</sup> 1820

69

I have recd your favor of the 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Agreeably to your request have shipped by Capt Swan of the  
Sloop Geo Washington 1 cash containing all the pump books we  
sold, & four hand pumps none of either having been sold since  
I wrote you on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 1819. I expect to be in Boston  
soon will then settle the acct. for sales as annexed. —

Wm Coffin

Sales of 1 hand pump \$14	2 wt Box. 28 $\frac{1}{2}$	42.
Freight Com: Advertising		4.60
Up Country & portage	\$8	<u>37.40</u>
		25
		<u>37.15</u>

May 12 1820

Bury<sup>n</sup> Mitchell

My friend I have made sale of the  
remaining ten shares in the U. N. Stock above you have  
a draft on Barker & Hopkins for 700. Dols & inclosed you  
have a draft on Sam Hicks from Ruben Number for 300  
Doll the whole, and for which the shares sold. I have done  
nothing yet as respects the Estate matter

Wm Coffin

Coppy

for you Dollars

Martucket May 12 1820.

Five days after sight please to pay the order of Wm.  
Coffin Seven hundred Dollars Value received & place the same to ac't  
of  
To Barker & Hopkins New York Indorsed payable to the order of Bur<sup>n</sup>  
Mitchell —  
Coppy.

Sir at sight please to pay Wm Coffin on order  
three hundred Dollars value received & charge youes  
Mr Sam<sup>c</sup> Hicks R R Banker  
West New York.

May 10<sup>th</sup> 1820

Brother Henry

I have lately rec'd from Geo: B. Pickham a letter dated Mobile, where he is married & settled. He has sent for his Brother Thomas, I am about closing the estate account, in order to ship to George as much of the property belonging to them as I can, the whole of which now remaining in my hands is not very considerable.

I hold ~~your~~ note due the Estate dated Aug' 25 1809 for six hundred dollars on interest, Considering your circumstances I have forbear to press the payment. I have now to render an account of my proceedings, wish to know what you can do in the business, can you pay the interest or a part of it, George request me to ship him some Whole & some Summer strained Oil. cannot you furnish some & renew the note for what may be due I have been easy on the matter not doubting your will when ever your circumstances would admit of your paying. if you could furnish one or two tons of oil it would be a great help to the young men who stand in need. I wish your answer by the last even packet as I expect to proceed myself with Thomas to Boston as soon as an opportunity offers to get him a passage which I expect will be in a few days

Our family are all well every thing find you the same <sup>& yours</sup>

Yours W. G.

wrote a letter afterwards & enclosed a note for Henry to sign from which I have rec'd no answer

Boston Sept 23 1820

Brother Henry I have twice written you before & I yet have received no answer direct from you respecting the note due the Estate of Lydia Pickham, I must again call your attention to my last letter which requested you to give a new note for the amount due including the Interest up to the time my letter was wrote. Thomas will leave this in a week or ten days for Mobile & my wish is to render an account of the whole Estate to the present time if you could pay anything it would be very acceptable he much needs it least my last letter did not reach you, I will again

make out a note for you to sign including the Interest to this date  
which I wish you to sign & forward by the return Packet. If you should  
pay anything towards the note you may sign the note as it stands  
& indorse the amount you pay on the back of the note. Whales &c  
Summer Strained sperm Oil & sperm Candles would be the same  
as last at a fair price as they will answer for Thomas to take  
with him. It is my duty to urge your particular attention  
to the business.

W Coffin

P.S. On the receipt of the New Note I will forward you the old  
one.

Copy of Note sent to be signed

At Bedford Sept 28 1820

For Value received of Lydia Pinkham late of Newmarket  
Deceased, I promise to pay William Coffin Executor to said  
estate or to his order for the sum of the sum of One thousand  
& eight Dollars on demand with interest until paid.

Witness -

Oct 4 1820

Gos R Pinkham D<sup>r</sup> Sir Your favour of the 15 March last past  
came duly to hand, in which you expressed a wish for Thomas to  
come on to you I had in view to send him immediately but at the  
time I recd the letter there was no opportunity immediately offered I  
therefore concluded to postpone his going until this fall. I have  
now engaged a passage for him in the Schooner Only Son Capt Nye  
a vessel chartered by Swift & Jenkins of Walmouth who will leave  
that place in about ten days & tht will go in her I shall ship you  
for ant of tht. about 6 tons of Whaled Sperm Oil & a few Box' of Sperm  
Candles say so when Thomas goes by him by him I will furnish  
you with the Estate of your mother to the present time You & your  
Lady have not only mine but that of the whole family's respects  
we are generally in good health your old Grandmother still lives  
& is in good health

Your W<sup>m</sup> Coffin

Mr. Coffin & Co.

Nov 7 1820

Dear Sir

Since writing you a few days past (which letter is now in the Post-Office how I believe as the Packet has not sailed since about it is) I have conversed with Mr. Gibbs, who assured me that the business respecting Mr. Swift's apprentice's voyage had been mutually settled between you & Mr. Swift. I then informed Mr. Coffin that he might in safety pay me the balance of the voyage, he having informed me that part had been paid; that amount current had been forwarded with the debt & credit he accordingly paid me \$ 295<sup>00</sup> which amt. I now enclose in this letter & shall hand it to Mr. Gibbs, to be directed you for account of Mr. Swift's order. You will acknowledge the receipt of the same in a line directed to me, if at any time you have any time you have any business at this place wherein you think I can render you any service you will please freely to command yours Ob't Servt

W. Coffin

Feb. 2d 1821

Mr. D. Mitchell

Sir I enclosed you will have a draft on  
Nathan Cunstock for \$ 62.45 the amount of your notes  
on Staunton, & Interest &c. &c.

W. Coffin

Copy of draft

\$ 62.45

At three day sight, please to pay to the  
order of Benj'n Mitchell Sixty two dollars 45 & Valem  
due, & charge the same to my acct

To Nathan Cunstock

New York N.Y.

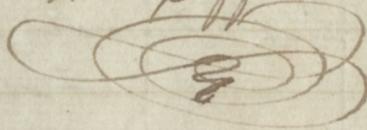
Signed by Paul Mitchell

Apr 10<sup>th</sup> 1821

Yours favour of the fifth Inst / attached to an order from  
 General Hamlin in your favour for the voyage his son in the ship Eagle  
 came to hand in the last Mail. I have treated with the owners of  
 ship Eagle the Messrs Burnell, Mr Duer, & <sup>Capt</sup> Huber Barker, I have  
 delivered the order to Mr Duer who has promised to accept the same  
 with an understanding that Mr James Morris bill for outfitting  
 about 20 Doll & a small bill of the Messrs Burnell about 10 Doll  
 shall first be paid out of said voyage. I have done with your  
 order what appeared to be the best for your interest. The ship Eagle  
 is nowly expected home with a small voyage, say 600 bbl of WO  
 & about 100 sperm.

I expect to leave this in a few days for Boston shall  
 be absent about 10 days shall leave the business with my par-  
 ticular friends the Messrs Burnell,

John Coffin



Mr Loundon Esq'

July 19 1821

Sir

Having had so much to do with  
 with the ship Eagle in settling the loss with the owners as she was  
 insured in our office I had almost forgot your demand on  
 Hamblins Voyage until I recd yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst, however I  
 had before done all that was necessary to secure you all  
 beyond the owners & Mr Morris bill. I will now give you  
 a statement of the Voyage

Cost of Sails of some Whale oil at St. Barths	
& some Whale oil & bone at Nantucket &	
all the sperm oil at Amherst	2900. 46

Deduct

Charges, freight, & all other expense except	
extra Leakage which I believe has been estimated	909. 92
at 10 p.c.	1990. 14

Hamblins part $\frac{1}{3}$ - 20. 90	
his part of WO & oil at Nantucket 42. 60	63. 50
Charg'd Owners bill 1 Year & Jd B Burnell 7. 93	37. 80
& James Morris bill 20. 93 Total	25. 54

25

the balance of \$25.54 is in the hands of S. Ewer & will be paid  
me for you and if you agree to the adjustment which  
I believe to be correct

J. Wm Coggin

Aug 2<sup>d</sup> 1821

Mr. Garrison

In when I wrote you giving a statement  
of Hamblin's voyage, it appeared there would be a balance due  
you of \$25.54 I did not at the time know that the Captain had any  
bill against him, since which I find he has a bill of \$9.90.  
The owners would not agree to pay any part of that, but Mr  
Morse agreed that he would allow a part & has made the deduc-  
tion as below. I have agreed to settle the business in doing  
which I made for you the best bargain I could.

A statement of Hamblin's voyage  
the whole amount of which was . . . . . 63.80  
deduct

Captain Swain's bill . . . . . 9.50

Mr. S. Ewer . . . . do . . . . 8.50

J. D. B. Brewell do . . . . 7.93 25.93  
37.87

Mr. Morse's bill 21.93  
he agrees to deduct. 5.93 16.  
21.87

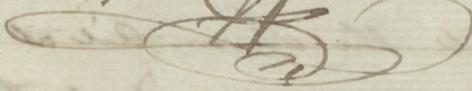
for my trouble. . . . . 1.7

cash inclosed - \$20.50

4 r. bill 20

half crown .50  
20 50

Wm Coggin



100  
100

80.00  
60.00

80.00

Nantucket Sept 24 1821

Mrs Cartwright & Mitchell

Gentlemen

My son William is about to establish himself in the grocery line at Nantucket with funds immediately for Boston, for the purpose of laying in a small stock to begin with will probably want £100 it equal to what he may have cash to pay for, any assistance that you can render him will be gratefully acknowledged by  
Yours, Wm Coffin

P.S. I am one eighth concerned in this Targin share consider myself accountable to you for that proportion of your purchases for her a/c W.C.

Oct 8 1821

Mr Winslow Lewis

Sir Your favour of the 21<sup>st</sup> Sept has had a long passage, I did not receive it until this day, in answer to which I would observe that you directed me to account with Remond & Ludlow for all the patent pump Box, sold agreeably to your directions I forwarded them an acct on the 8<sup>th</sup> May the net sales was then \$37 4<sup>1/2</sup> 00 less 25% trade, I then informed them that I should soon be in Boston & would then pay the balance due I now hold their receipt dated June 9<sup>th</sup> for 37 4<sup>1/2</sup> 00 if you are charged that amount it ought to be credited back

Wm Coffin

Mrs Ficks & Rice Gent.

Oct 24<sup>th</sup> 1821

Confidin in your strict attention to business I wish you to ship me about 400 lb of button of a good quality for a ship on a long voyage in kegs of from 20 to 30 d weight likewise a good th of Melasse if you will please ship the above to Geo Washington Capt Searin they are for ship Targin you will please mark the articles shipped P.T. you will please to put the articles at the lowest cash price & call on Mrs Cartwright & Mitchell for the sum of the last of your bill & forward the same accepted

To Mrs C & M having directed Mrs Ficks & Rice to ship me some articles say to the sum of something near 100 doll you will please to pay them the sum of their bill & charge the same to my last W.C.

W. D. W. Bradlee

Particulars Jan 26 1822

In the Union S. Co made a dividend of  
\$ per share you have an order of Cartwright & Mitchell  
for one hundred Dollars your dividend

W. G.

\$ 100.

Copy

Please to pay David W. Bradlee or Order One  
hundred Dollars of charge the same to Act of yours  
at hand

Hopps Cartwright & Mitchell  
Merchants Boston

Wm. Coffin

March 26 1822

Benj' Mitchell.

It is some time since I have made to you any  
communication as respects my proceedings under your power I will  
now state to you what I have done

In March 1821 It was desirable to the heirs of A. Mitchell to  
divide certain lots of land called meadow lots I applied for your  
advice perhaps I might offend the power you gave me so far  
as I have it will go for nothing as the other heirs of the Estate  
were fully informed that my power only extended to divide  
of receive your part of the Estate, It has ever I agreed that  
they should be valued that you should receive in money  
your part. You may depend upon it I took good care  
you should not be injured in the valuation.

A tract in the Zephaniah Country of a lot near the  
upper Town Rope walk was valued at \$ 1514.72  
your part of which would be \$ 302.96  
of which there is due you from Christ Mitchell. \$ 134.96  
Labor Mitchell, heirs \$ 50.80  
Paul Mitchell \$ 117.23

A piece of land on South Meadow taken by  
C. Mitchell valued at \$ 226.05 your part is  
\$ 45.23 due from Christ Mitchell.

77

A piece of Meadows to the Northward taken by Paul  
Mitchell valued at 470.75<sup>s</sup> your part due from Paul Mitchell  
is 96.15

since which nothing has taken place until the death of  
your mother. the furniture of the house was to be di-  
vided I agreed that Eunice should appear for you, she  
did, & I presume she has given an account of what  
she has received. In division of other property you  
have eleven shares in the U.S. Co. of which I hold the  
shares for your act gave share in the Bank.. A purchaser having  
appeared for the farm say the Burnell or Old Hussey farm -  
Not having power to sell for you Chas' Paul & the other heirs  
have agreed to guarantee that you to the sale with my consent  
which I give, they have sold it at \$4000. your part of which  
is 800. due payable in 12 months without interest the pay-  
ment is well secured. & Mitchell of 2 Mitchell of Children  
have sold to Garrison Starbuck two fifths of the Plain  
field tract (he was the purchaser of the farm)

You now have your fifth of Plainfield in Co  
with Christopher Mitchell. & Paul Mitchell of your fifth  
of north Squam farm in Co with all the heirs -

I have agreed to the valuation of an other piece of land  
near Thos' Gardner which if you agree to will give  
\$44.29. to paid you from all the heirs.

There is an amount with the Estate which is not  
yet closed therefore I can say nothing of that as yet -

In the sale of the farm Stock was not included  
there fore you still have your part of that farm as well  
as an Plainfield.

I never had any acct from you of the receipt  
of a draft which I forwarded of \$62.45. for that  
acct I rec'd. for your note of interest of Staunton

Wm C. Jr.

March 60 1823

Mr Benj' Mather

I have this day received an  
order or bill on Nathan Curstack of New York from  
Paul Mather for five hundred Dollars which is  
now in hand to you

Yours Wm Coffin

Copy of Order or bill

Nantucket 8 March 1823

the order of For thirty days from date please pay  
to Wm Coffin Esq. five hundred Dollars value  
received of charge the same to account of your friend

To Nathan Curstack  
Merchant N York

Paul Mather

Wm Coffin & Market

Nantucket March 11 1823

Gentlemen I have shipped on board the  
Ship Name Capt Wm Robinson two cask of oil marked  
H.S. gauge 133 & 78. Capt Robinson has directions to sell the  
same at a fixed price provided he does not sell it he is  
directed to deliver it to you for sale on my acc't. the  
oil is warranted to me of the first quality of ground oil from  
head Matter therefore you may warrant it of the best of  
winter pressed oil, I mention the quality of the oil because I  
am very certain there is an abundance of spurious winter oil  
shipped to market

Yours Wm Coffin

Nantucket June 25<sup>th</sup> 1823

Matto & Snelling Dr Sir I owe the money some time past for L.  
Money note it had run over the year some few days I did not  
exact the interest beyond one year a good opportunity now offered  
to forward the money by Martin & Morton Esq.

1. Bill 50 - 50  
3. do 30 - 90  
2. do 20. 60  
1. do 10. 10  
1. do 2. 2  
212

Phoenix Bank for any amount which I can render you  
will please freely to command  
Yours Wm Coffin

John Reed Esq't

79

Boston Feb 24 1824

Sir Col Vincent of the Vineyard I am informed has it in view to visit Washington City his object I believe is to get some office under the Gen<sup>t</sup> Government. Having been for some years acquainted with the Gentleman, have no hesitation in saying he has supported an unblemished Character in this Town where he has done considerable damage business, he has been particularly unfortunate (to my knowledge) in the whaling business as well as many others, therefore I feel for him, any service you can render him will be gratefully acknowledged by yours ob<sup>r</sup> servt

Wm Coffin

Wm Lovering  
Esq'

March 1 1824

I have shipped to you per Sloop Rapid Co.  
to Myrick 17 cask Whale Oil inclosed is a bill of lading  
for the same, I now suspense I wish you to sell the  
same for cash if possible, if not as soon as short as possible  
as the arrears are to go towards the settlement of an unfortu-  
nate debtors amount, which is wished to be wound up as  
soon as possible  
Yours Wm Coffin

Invoicing of 17 cask of Oil shipped to Wm Lovering  
per Sloop Rapid for account of nine of whom it may  
concern.

Marked W.C.	190	209
	115	28
17 <sup>th</sup>	96	
164	150	
125	129	
875	199	
88	190	
77	138	
71	168 <sup>r</sup>	
1156	1126	
	2241	

95 Mr Winslow Lewis Esq

Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 1825

Sir your favour of the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst did not reach  
me until yesterday in which you state I am charged in Winslow  
Lewis & Co books two Biminal Lms £16" at the foot is an order  
on Oppr Loring Jun for that sum which you will please make  
of balance th. Accts. W. C.

Copy of order

Newmarket Feb. 12 1825

Please pay Winslow Lewis sixteen Dollars  
of debit on the same. W. C.

To Oppr Loring Jun  
Newm't Boston -

Oppr Loring Jun

Dear Sir

May 2<sup>d</sup> 1825

Mr Isaac Austin (son of the owner of Brig  
Dolphin) received a letter by last mail from Charles & Mary dated this Jan: 19<sup>th</sup> 1825 he stated that he was at that place 26 Jan: that a survey was had  
on the vessel, which reported that she could not be repaired under £6000.  
was in consequence condemned as unseaworthy of repair, that he had sold  
his W. D. for 300 Pounds for gallan the charges to come out would bring it less  
than half of her value he should bring home with him that he should  
be ready to leave them in 8 or 10 days in the Piggars for N London or  
the Pennsylvania for Phila: that he should vest his money in  
Produce he has sent no documents of it is not known what vessel  
his letter came by it has the Post mark of Phila: Apr 25<sup>th</sup>.  
I am informed two of his crew have arr: in Providence but not  
yet got home here I think it would be proper to offer an abandon-  
ment to the M F M I Co as far forth as you promised myself &  
others to be insured on the Dol: & cargo out-fitt the Capt will pro-  
bably be home soon then you will receive pocket surveys sales of  
c. &c

Oppr Coffey

Mr Tim<sup>r</sup> House Sir your favour of the 22<sup>d</sup> ult came duly to hand & accordingly  
request I presented the In: against you in your House say 700 doll for one year the sum  
of premium of Policy £54/10s which but you'll please pay Oppr Loring J: for my accts I apply to Mr  
Swain who occupies the N part of y<sup>r</sup> House found she had taken a family into the S part  
for one m<sup>th</sup> they advanced the rent which was expended in clearing & painting the  
room if the family should prove agreeable at the close of the yr it is probable  
they may continue, I will attend to the business W. C.

91  
Sept 2 1825

Mr<sup>rs</sup> Hendrick Gray & Co.

Herr<sup>m</sup> Mr<sup>r</sup> Starkweather my grand son  
(not Neptun) has just handed me your letter to him under  
date of 26 ult. in which you say "w<sup>t</sup> presume your Uncle  
meant to have his guarantee apply to the original sum whilst  
such debts might be due us, if so, will you request him to give  
us a line explicitly to that effect - the one we have is rather  
ambiguous on that point, the amt is about \$300.. —

My meaning was to guarantee the credit first obtain-  
ed to the amt I expressed believing if he was attentive  
to his business, he would by punctual payments establish  
his own credit & not need any guarantee in future.

But as you observe my guarantee was rather ambigu-  
ous I will now be explicit & state that I hold myself account-  
able for the amount of 300 Dall about which you say is now due  
of that I will hold myself guarantee that amt at all times,  
whether new or old credits. incite further notice.

Wm Coffin

To Philip Mervet.  
Park of N.E. Bank.

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 1825

So inclosed is a check to my order from  
the Pacific Bank on N.E. Bank & now by me made payable  
to you for the purpose of paying the draft of Dan' Burles  
of Ship Tarquin for \$200. on John Sain of this town  
payable in Boston at 15 days sight & accepted by J. S.  
on the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. I understand s draft was accepted & for-  
warded to the N.E. Bank will you appropriate the enclo-  
ched check to pay s acceptor & forward the bill to me in  
so doing you will oblige your Ob<sup>d</sup> Servt

Wm Coffin

Copy of Check. Nantucket Pacific Bank

No. .... 200 date

Nantucket 14<sup>th</sup> 1825

Cash of New England Bank

say to the order of Wm Coffin two hundred dollars

James Athearn

Doll \$ 200.

Indorsed, say Cash of N E Bank

Wm Coffin

Dec 21 1825

Gro Larne & of Saty of the  
P. M. F. In Co.

I received your favour of the 15<sup>th</sup> ult  
of the last of assessments on the Property I have received the same  
some temporary encumbrance with our Banks (the ramifications  
of which extends to all many concerns in this town) has prevented  
my remitting the same, will you give an order on me for the  
amt due the Officer as per Act subjoined, there is Captains Hartt &  
Allen & May of this place will either of them no doubt take  
an order on me for the amt. as they may be assured it will  
be paid on sight in good money, but if they will not  
order me I will remit the money in such bills as you  
shall direct if to be obtained

Cft C

P. M. F. In Co in Act with Wm Coffin	Bal
To Commissions..... 93 <sup>2</sup>	By assessment Collected {
Balance .....	and Persons .....
<u>A 18.71<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>18.71<sup>2</sup></u>

Afp 28<sup>th</sup> 1826

M<sup>r</sup> Elias Thomas Sir it is due from me to answer yours of the 15<sup>th</sup> Inst.  
as respects the bill drawn by Capt Dan<sup>t</sup> Bunker in favour of Capt Napier Capt  
Bunker stated to you the truth that most of the accounts of the Tropic in say  
all but one but that one was the largest owner says 1/4 of the Ship were ready  
pay. at the time I received your letter Capt S Bunker was here but before  
I had an opportunity to treat with the owners of the Tropic Capt Bunker  
left for N.Y. Circumstances have materially altered the case since your bill  
on Capt Napier first came to hand. We now have accounts of the total loss of  
the Ship abandoned at sea, the Capt & Crew in their boats after a passage of  
600 miles at sea landed at Barbados, one of the crew has arrived here  
the Captain may be expected daily. The owners do not feel disposed to do  
anything until the Captain arrives & his account adjusted, since he drew  
in favour of Capt Napier he has drawn bill to the amount of 18 or 22  
hundred dollars all of which are protested or noted for non acceptance  
Notwithstanding which if the Captain has conducted himself  
safely & have no doubt the bill will be all paid, at any rate as far

as I am interested which is only  $\frac{1}{8}$ <sup>th</sup> part & feel desirous to exonerate Capt Bunker. I think the best way that Mr Apier can do will be for him to entrust the business with Capt S Bunker of the Galen there is no better man in my opinion.

Yours affec Coffin

Bantam May 22<sup>d</sup> 1825

Mess<sup>m</sup> Henry Chapman Esq

Gentlemen

I recd

Yours of the 10<sup>d</sup> Inst. you state that Capt Tim<sup>o</sup> Slause had left his house in your hands for sale of wished to know what the cash price would be that I could obtain for the same by my commissions in answer I will inform you that real estate in this Town is low indeed & I dont think the house in question would at this time realize realive \$ 1000. —

Yours affec Coffin

Geo Larned Esq:

Nov 23<sup>d</sup> 1825

Sity. Prov. M. D. Co. Dr Sir I recd yours of the 16<sup>d</sup> inst noticing me that my Policies No. 1879. 1880. 1881. & 1882 would expire on the 14<sup>d</sup> inst I should like have the Policies renewed provided liberty is granted as follows No 1879. is a building I let of in the course of 7 years past it has been occupied by different persons in different busines of the 2 story. is now occupied one part as the Dragoon Printing Office & one part as a reading room the part as a clock & watch makers shop & part as a Printer & Bookseller counting room I should wish that I might have liberty to let it for other branches of business altho at present there is no prospect of any alteration soon the relative situation has not in the least altered. No 1880 is at present occupied by the same person no alteration in the building of the relative situation remains the same as when last insured.

No 1881. is now occupied as a riggers loft in the upper story the lower story as an auction room the cellar as usual I think the rate of fire <sup>is</sup> high as the building comes very near fire proof but however the sum is small & with the liberty to let it for other purposes than what it is now used for, it may be renewed the relative situation is the same as when last insured.

No 1882 occupied as it was no alteration in the building or relative situation I wish that renewal for \$ 2200. on the dwelling house only.

Affec Coffin

<sup>22</sup>  
Wm Coffin Jr.

Nantucket Feb 26 1827

Sir I have rec'd your favour of the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst & agreeably to your wish have  
continued your fire Policies, they will take life at the time the former renewal expires  
you will give yourself no trouble about the premium when it is convenient I will  
give an order on you for the amount likewise for a balance I have paid for you  
for premium on the South America to the Union Insurance Company. this with the  
Policies will be forwarded by the first private conveyance that offers.

Yours &c

Premium & renewal on Policies

Nov 75. 76 & 77

13.00

Balances paid U. S. Co.

21.16

\$ 44.16

Wm Coffin

Benj' Natchole

May 19 1827

Washington Dutches Co

Your favour of the 30 ult came duly to  
hand I treated with Matts of favor'd. that it would not be  
in the power of the Family to take up the note until they  
got remittance from the Pacific Ocean however I found a man  
that would take the Note at 10 p<sup>r</sup>c discount, before I negotiated  
it I talked with Matts of favor'd it was agreeable to him  
to get a check on a Boston Bank I paid for p<sup>r</sup> of  
it to make it safe to go by Mail got the check payable  
to order therefore when you negotiate it you will put your  
name on the back

the note at first was . . . 1796.90

Set to the time the first payment

190.44

was made

1987.39

Cordonsment . . . .

1085.14

Interest to May 16 1827

902.95

dist 10 p<sup>r</sup>c

1020.58

1015.93

101.60

914.93

Up 1/2 p<sup>r</sup>c —

4.57

909.76

Mr Benj<sup>m</sup> Mitchell  
Washington Dutchess Co: N.Y

Nantucket May 3<sup>d</sup> 1890

Sir It is long since I wrote you, not having anything particular to communicate, but just having received from Paul Mitchell a balance of \$21<sup>25</sup>/100. that together with some small dividends of several sums enables me to remit you a check on the Phoenix Bank N.Y for \$250. I have contracted to the sell the share you have in the Store on the N. N Wharf of am in Treaty for the sale of your interest in the New North Wharf, think I shall compleat those sales & receive the money in a few days. I shall then remit the same without delay.

Yours Wm Coffin

Copy of Check inclosed

Nantucket Pacific Bank.

250 Dollars

Nantucket May 3<sup>d</sup>

Pay William Coffin or Order Two hundred & fifty  
Dollars.

signed James Athearn Lark

To the Cashier of Phoenix Bank

Star Cash

Indors payable to the order of Benj<sup>m</sup> Mitchell  
Washington Dutchess County N.Y

Copy

Mr<sup>m</sup> Scotland & Roberts. Gent<sup>m</sup> I received a line from Capt' Noah Hatch at Falmouth dated yesterday, as he is not intended here he wished me to write you, & state whether I wanted the stones on the terms you had offered to furnish them, he inclosed the written terms you had given him, the flagging will answer at your terms say at 8 cents per foot, but the steps will come too high I can get from Quincy well wrought Granite, larded here at something less than 60 Cents per foot they will answer my purpose full as well as your stone. You will say to Capt' Hatch that I shall expect the flagging but not steps, except you can afford them at 60 cents per foot if so you will furnish them likewise. I shall not order granite from Quincy until I hear from you or him again. You will please drop me a line immediately on the receipt of this whether Quincy expect the steps at my offer or not

Wm Coffin

Elijah Swift Esq

Nantucket 16 Oct 1837

Falmouth Dear I received yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> int agreeably  
to your instruction I received your dividend from the Com-  
mercial Inv Co of Pacific Banker statement at the foot.

The Directors of P.B. agreed to the continuance of  
your note for an other term of 60 days for which I paid the  
discount  
    Rec from Com<sup>er</sup> Inv Co ..... 75  
    " " P. Bank ..... 75  
  150  
Paid discount. .... 52.50  
  97.50

Inclosed 1 check Falmouth ..... 50.  
4.10 Due bills 1.5 do two 1<sup>st</sup> do ..... 47  
On your ac't ..... 50. 97.50

In examining your Inv: A/c. as it now stands it is in your  
favour about 80 Dols but a loss not yet adjusted on cargo  
of Schooner Reliance from Richmond to Nantucket  
which vessel was stranded on the Jersey shore, the cargo  
was saved with heavy charge of damage, I suppose the  
loss will be nearly 50 per cent if so the balance will be some  
where about 30 or 40 Dols against you yrs affec Coffin

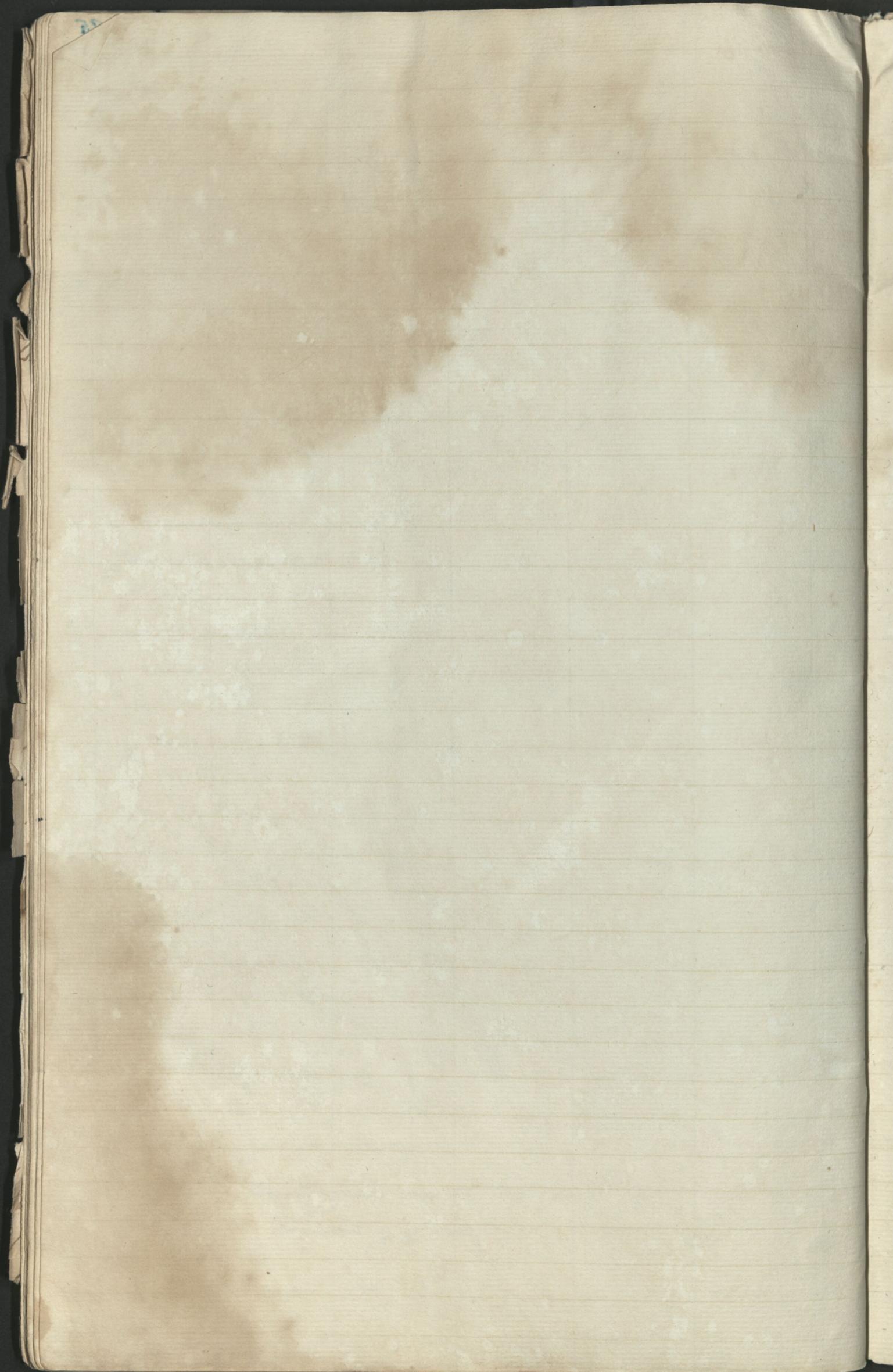
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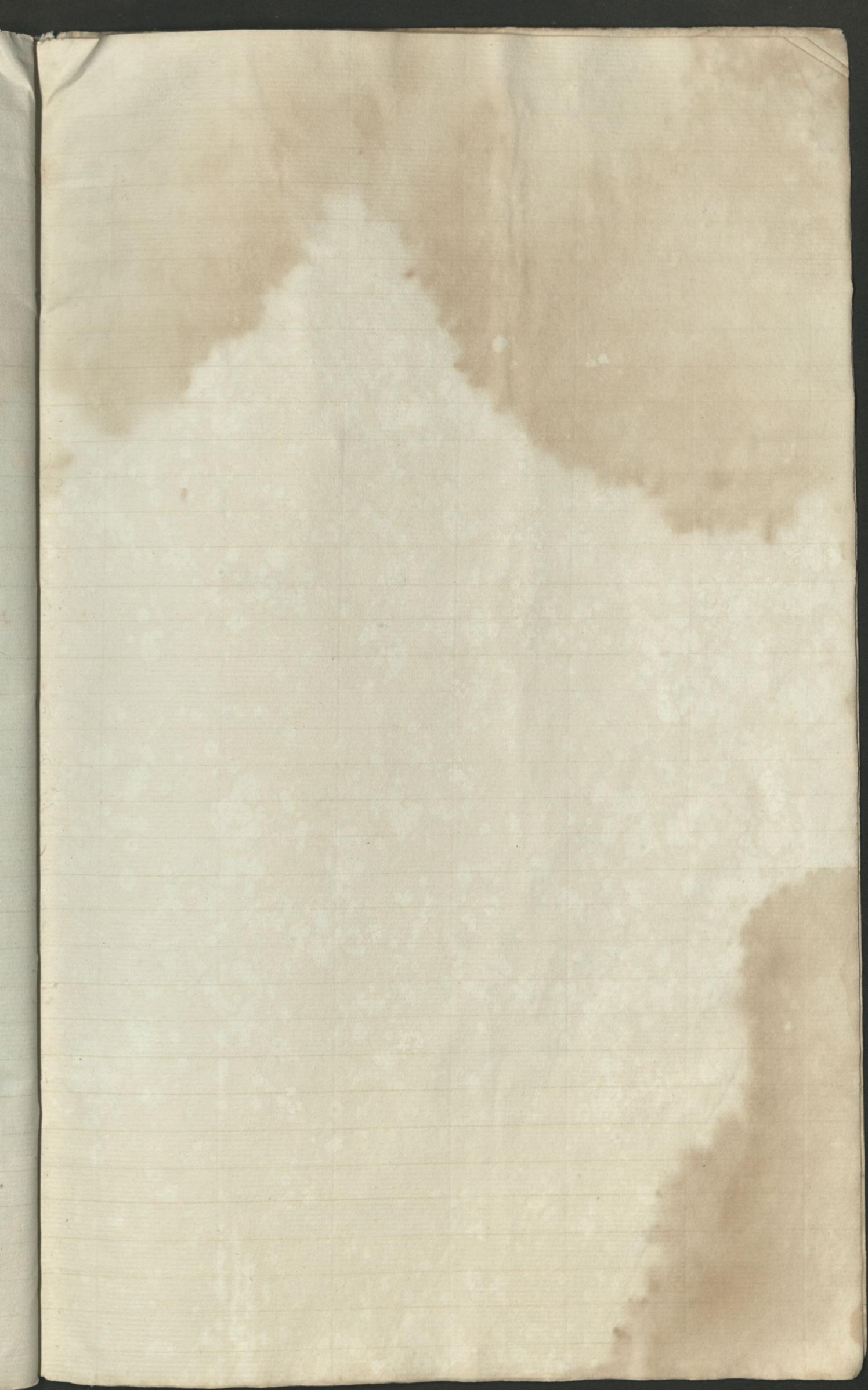
The Cashier of Pacific Bank wished me to suggest to you the  
propriety of sending a New Note of taking up the old one  
I have just been informed that your ship Mr. has W.C.  
arr'd I made insurance for Nathaniel Dayton on his  
last Voyage on board the A. this Dayton has become a  
worthless creature is now in the Town Asylum or house  
of Correction if the savage comes into his hands it should  
be hard for me yet it I will endorse the note in close  
it in this if by the favour of god stopping it in your  
hands let me charge your account with it W.C.

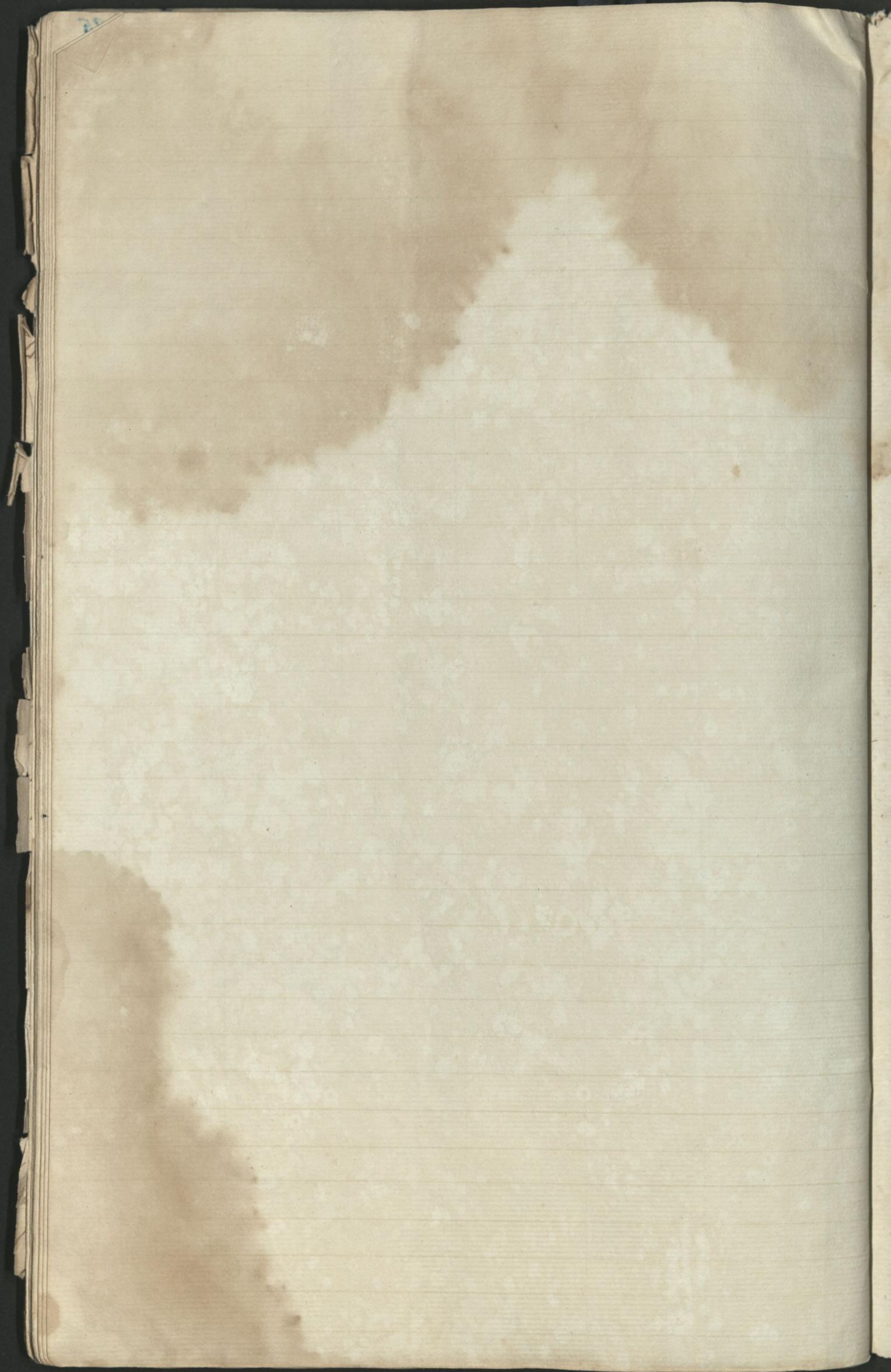
I wrote again on the 29<sup>th</sup> to know if the letter  
was received & if all was correct W.C.

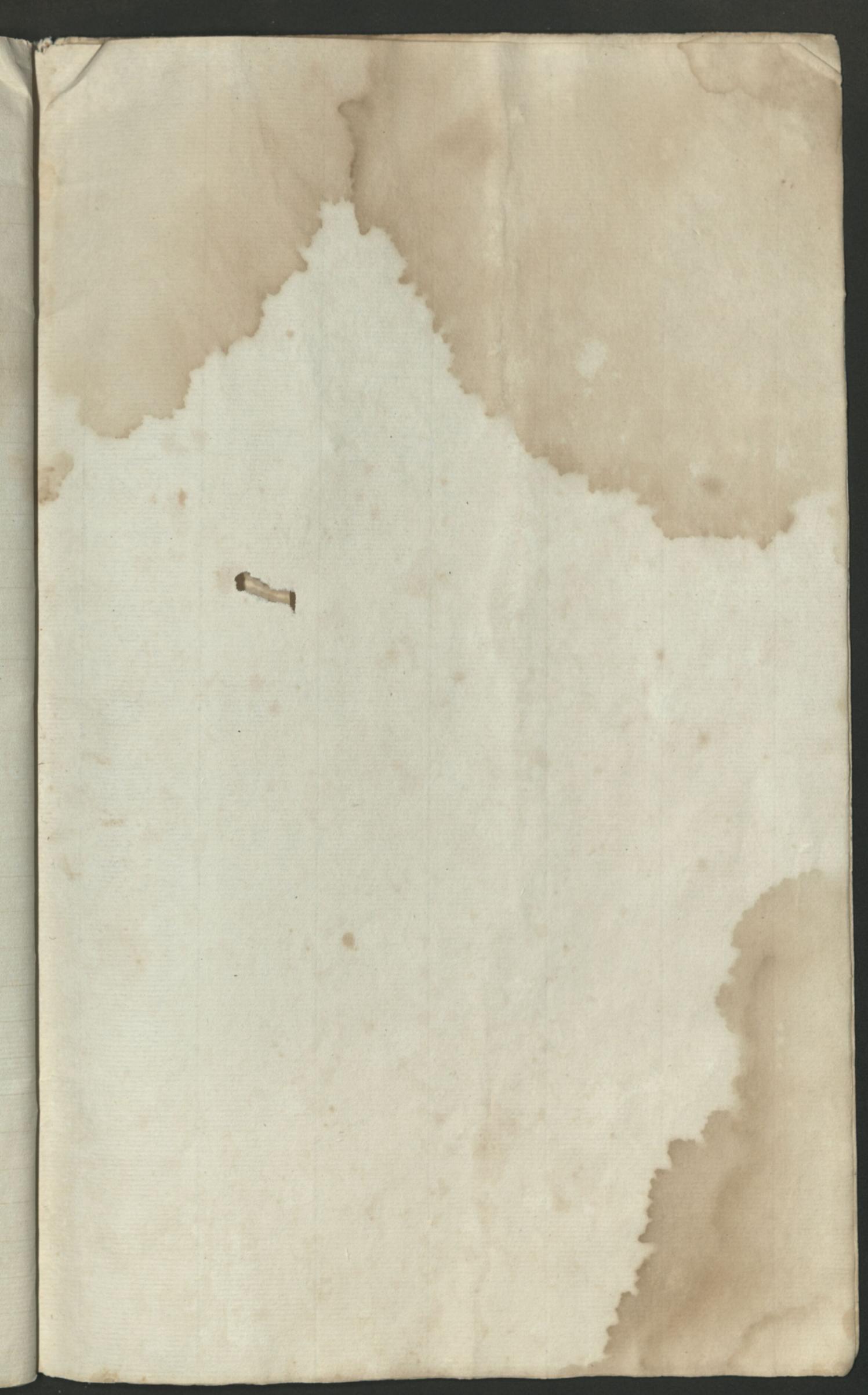
I wrote again 4<sup>th</sup> Oct to enquire if the letter  
was safe -

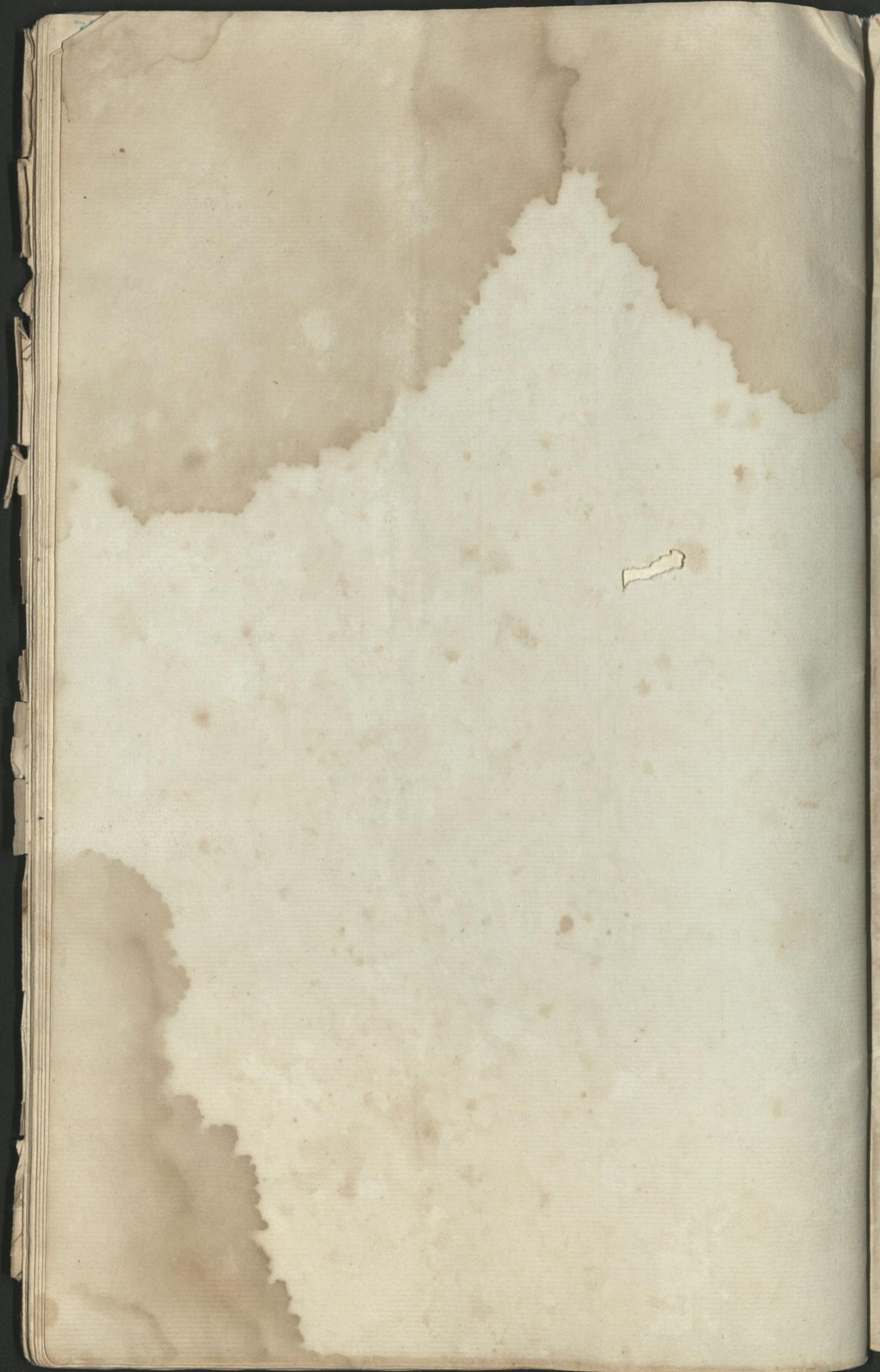
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